

THE TRAVELS OF

PETER TEIXEIRA

FROM

INDIA to ITALY by Land.

CHAP. I.

The Motive I had to undertake this Journey, and a short Account of a Voyage I made before, from India to Spain, by the way of the Philippine Islands.

BEING in the Year 1600, in the City of *Malaca*, seated in that Part of *India*, which the Ancients call'd *Aurea Chersonesus*, and intending to return to *Portugal*, my Native Country, I resolv'd to do it by the way of the *Philippine Islands*, to save time, and see some more of the World, encourag'd by the present Opportunity of a small Vessel, then fitting out for that Voyage, by the Commander *Martin Alfonso de Melo's* Order, to acquaint the Governour of those Islands with the coming of the *Dutch* into the *Indian Seas*. I departed *Malaca*, the most considerable Mart of all that Southern

Malaca City.

B

Sea, lying in two Degrees and a half of North Latitude, and in a Fruitful Country, ever green, and tho' so directly under the Sun healthful and temperate, on the first of May, in the aforesaid Year. We coasted along to the Southward, leaving on the right the great Island of *Sumatra*, by the *Portugueses* frequently call'd *Achem*, from a Kingdom in it of that Name, lying to the Westward of the Continent, and but 8 Leagues distant at present, having been formerly joyn'd to it, and separated by the Fury and Violence of the Sea. The Kingdoms in it are many, but not well civiliz'd, yet wealthy and abounding in pure Gold, Pepper, Lake, White Benjamin, Camphir, and other valuable Commodities, besides great Plenty of Provisions. We also left on the Right Hand the Streight of *Sebam*, form'd by this and many other Islands, and leading to the *Javas*, *Sunda*, *Amboyna*, the *Moluccoes*, *Timor* *Solor* *Bale*, and a great Number of other Islands and Kingdoms lying in those Seas. Keeping close to the Continent, and passing by the there Noted Rivers *Muar* and *Pole*, we came to the Streight of *Sincapura*, lying between the aforesaid Continent, and the Islands forming the other Streight of *Sabam*, in the Shape of the Figure 5. and so narrow for half a League, that the Ships sailing from *India* to *China*, or the contrary, wanting Room in the midst of it to tack about, if there should be Occasion, use generally when they come to either End, to cast Anchor and wait for a Tide, to pass through with the Boat out a head, to toe and keep her steady; and it sometimes happens they are fain to stay 3, 4 or 5 Days for this Opportunity, the Tides there running so many Days, sometimes more and sometimes less one way, without any certain Rule, which is very wonderful. Another thing no less unaccountable is observ'd all along this Coast and about the Islands, in the Shel Fish, which is fullest at the New Moon, and emptiest at the Full, contrary to what is usual in all other Lands and Seas. Along this Streight and on the adjacent Coasts, live those Inhabitants of the Water, call'd *Seletes*, mention'd in my first Book of the Kings of *Persia*, chap. 29, being great Fishermen and greater Robbers. About the middle of this Streight the Tide fail'd us and our Vessel drove upon a Parcel of Rocks, where we were in much Danger, and had no less Trouble and Fatigue to get off, and the Tide soon turning, made our way through. We water'd at *Romarya*, which is on the Continent, 32 Leagues from *Malaca*, and sail'd on the right of *Piedra Blanca*, or the white Rock, so famous in the East, among the *Portugueses*, as being a Land Mark for all Ships coming that way for the Streight, from *Japan*, *China*, *Cochinchina*, *Chirichea*, *Cambaya*, *Siam*, *Pate*, *Paedre*, *Pam*, *Champa*, and other Kingdoms, and bound for *Malaca*; as also because this is one of the Places where the Needle has no Variation.

We

We held on our Course, amidst almost innumerable Islands, all of them Desert, and in 23 Days we were Sailing from *Malacca* to *Borneo*, lost not sight of them only one Day. Nothing remarkable befel us till our coming to *Borneo*, tho' we were not free from the usual Dread of Flats, Shoals, Currents, and sudden Gusts of Wind, which render that Sea unfit for Ships of great Burden. Making the Westernmost Point of the Island, we Coasted along it about 200 Leagues to the Northward, to the Port, which is spacious and safe, form'd by the Mouth of a mighty River, that falls into the Sea there, and several Islands encompassing it about. *Borneo* is one of the largest Islands in the East, but not of the most resorted to. The Inhabitants are *Moors*, all of an Olive Complexion, well Featur'd, and particularly the Women. Most of them go Naked, with only a Clout wrapp'd about them, and the better sort wear a *Baju*, which is a slight half Shirt. The Land abounds in all sorts of Provisions those Parts afford. Here is found the purest and most excellent Camphir, for its singular Goodness distinguish'd by the Name of *Borneo*, and taken from the Heart of the Trunk of a large Tree, scraping it with Iron Hooks, like Rosin, then putting it into fair Water, and often changing, till it remains in its Purity. This sort is not brought to *Portugal*, being sold in *India* at very high Rates. Here are also many Bezoar Stones, much Tortoise Shell, Wax, and some Gold; but the Island on this side being neither Populous nor Healthy, and the People little addicted to Trade, besides that the Kingdoms of *Lave*, *Maia*, *Macem*, and other wealthy Ones are on the other side, nothing is exported, but what the *Portugueses* barter for some Cloth they carry thither. The *Spaniards* were once possess'd of this Port, and quitted it, because unhealthy and unfit for Trade, both by reason of the Nature of the Country and the Ignorance of the Natives. The chief Town, where the King and Sovereign of this Port resides, is on the River, the Houses, which are all of Timber, being founded on Beams and Planks, and riding at Anchor with Cables made of Withes, which is the *Rota* I mentioned elsewhere. Thus whensoever the King pleases, either on Account of the Weather, or for any other Reason, the whole City moves from one side of the River to the other, with very little Trouble. This is not to be admir'd, for the same is practis'd at *Palinban*, *Androguin*, and other Parts of the farther Coast of *Sumatra*, and some other Islands thereabouts. All the Natives of this Island are theevishly inclin'd, and the better to practice their calling, they go almost 400 Leagues in small light Boats, as far as the Coast of *Pegu* to rob, where loading their own Vessel, and those they take, with their Booty, they re-

Borneo
Island.

Camphir

turn home, seldom coming to any Damage by the Wind or Weather, because that Sea is so calm, that they have given it the Name of *the Sea of Ladies*; and when it happens to be rough with the sudden Gusts, which often rise, and with great Violence, tho' soon over; they get under the Shelter of the Land, creeping always close by it, and when it is over, prosecute their Voyage. Their Weapons are Swords, *Cofos*, that is Shields made of *Rota*, or Withes, some Spears, Javelins, a few Muskets, but the most common are the *Selibbes*, being Staves harden'd at the Fire, which strike like Iron and are vey brittle, so that the Wound being full of small Splinters, is almost incurable. Next to these they very much use Arrows, shot out of a Trunk, which being extremely slender made of a sort of Reeds, are pointed, instead of Iron, with a Tooth of so venomous a Fish, that the least Blood it draws is mortal; however being blown out of a Trunk, a small matter puts them by, and there are very sovereign Antidotes found against the Poison, tho' the *Portugueses* could never find any against the Poison'd Arrows, us'd by the Blacks on the Continent of *Africk*, about *Melinde* and *Monbiza*, along the *Indian Ocean*, whereof I have seen many die suddenly, in dreadful manner, notwithstanding their Wounds were very slight, without any Hopes of a Cure. Thus much may suffice for *Borneo*.

Phillipine
Islands.

We departed that Port, and running along the Coast of that Island two Days more, pass'd by Mount *Sr. Peter* on it, so high, that it is discern'd at 50 Leagues Distance. Then leaving *Borneo* a Stern, we held on our Course always among desert Islands, the most noted whereof are those of *Paragua* and *Malana*, besides almost innumerable others, where we gave our selves for lost every Moment. At length, on the 22th of *June* we came to an Anchor, in the Bay of *Cavite*, the Port to the City *Manila*, which is the Capital of the Islands the Natives call *Luzones*, and we the *Philippines*, because subdued in the Reign of King *Philip II.* of *Spain*, tho' long before discover'd by our *Portuguese*, *Ferdinand de Magellanes*, after he had found the Streight, which retains his Name to this Day; and he was kill'd in one of them call'd *Zebu*, 100 Leagues distant from this Port. These Islands are many in Number, some of them large, all populous, the Natives submissive, tho' some call'd *Ilocoos* and *Pintados* have at times given the *Spaniards* much Trouble. They are of an Olive Colour, go all naked, only cover'd with Cotton Blankets or Mantles. Some of them were *Pagans*, and some *Mahometans*, the latter are quite extirpated, and few of the former remain, being most converted to Christianity. These Islands improve daily by the Trade the *Spaniards* have brought to them, sending over above a Million and a half of Plate every Year from *New Spain*, and returning

Commodities,

Commodities of *China*, convey'd to them by the *Chineses* of *Chincheo*, whom they call *Sangleyes*, in great Quantities, tho' not so good as those the *Portugueses* export from *China*. (This was when the Author writ; for since the *Spaniards* deal for the very choicest Goods of that Country, and the *Portuguese Trade* there is fallen to nothing.) The City is large, and magnificently built with Lime and Stone, after the Modern Fashion; and the whole rather of too great an Extent; for which reason the *Spaniards* have carry'd a plain Stone Wall across the Middle of it, that they may bring themselves into a less Compass in case of Need. There is in it a Cathedral, which is an Archbishop's See, and there are three Bishops more in other Parts, a Royal Court, a Governour, who has the Authority of a Viceroy; and when I was there they were building several very stately Churches. The City is wall'd for fear of the *Japoneses*, with whom the *Spaniards* trade, and have a very Polite Government, and their Behaviour is courtly. The Islands bear much Rice, and have Wine made of *Nipa*; and tho' originally they had no Cattel at all, yet by the Industry of the *Spaniards*, all Sorts are so multiply'd, that the Country is not inferior to *New Spain*, in that particular. There is much Wax and Gold, which turns to good Account, carry'd to *Mexico*, and tho' many of the Natives paid their Tribute in Gold, and barter'd it away, the *Spaniards* had not in my time been able to learn whence they had it. They then also began to sow Wheat, for want whereof they had before made their Bread of Meal brought from *Chincheo* and *Japan*. Here is also great Store of Ebony and Cassia fistula, and all other Products both of those Parts and *Europe*, therefore they generally send abundance of Provisions to the *Molucco* Islands which would suffer very much without it, by reason of the great Distance of *India*, and uncertainty of Supplies from thence. Besides the great Profit, the near Neighbourhood of *China* is an Encouragement to Trade, the Passage between them being but of ten Days; and therefore those who go from *Mexico* to *Manila* commonly say, they are bound for *China*, and those who return from *Manila* to *New Spain* say, they are bound from *China* to *Spain*.

When I came to *Manila*, I obtain'd leave of the Governour *Don Francisco Tello de Meneses*, to go over to *New Spain*, for none can pass without, and there is much difficulty to obtain it. I went aboard a new Ship, of four that were ready to Sail, and of these the *St. Margaret*, being the Commodore, and the *St. Jerome* the next, commanded by Captain *James Rodriguez de Segura*, with whom I had agreed for my Passage, but that God diverted it, were both cast away on the Islands *Ladrones*; and another call'd *La Contadora*, was 7 Months on her Voyage to *Acapulco*, and near perishing by the

Manila
City.

Voyage
from Ma-
nila.

the Way. Being aboard this Ship, the Captains and Owners whereof were the Marshal *Gabriel de Ribera*, and *Dominick Ortiz de Chaboya*, both wealthy Men, who had built her purposely to go over themselves to *Mexico*, with a Design to admit of no Passenger, and receiv'd me as a particular Favour, we set sail from this Port, which is in 13 Degrees and a half of North Latitude, on the 18th of *July*, and sail'd 100 Leagues, continually among populous Islands, all belonging to that Government, till we came to the End of them, which they call the Gulph, or Streight of *Capul*, being the Name of an Island, on the 26th of the said Month This was great Fortune; for they often spend 2 Months in reaching that Place, and suffer much by Sicknels and other Inconveniences. Having taken in here Water, Fowl, Swine, and Fruit, which the Islanders usually bring to the Ships, at our going out of the Streight, tho' the Wind was fresh and right a Stern, we were detain'd 12 Hours from Midnibgt till Noon, by such a violent Current, that tho' the Wind blew fiercely for us, we could not advance half a League, till that Tide began to decline; when we got out to Sea so swiftly, that we soon lost Sight of all the Islands, and stood over for those of *Japan* formerly call'd *Argentaria*, because of the great Quantity of fine Silver they produce, whereof the *Portugueses* us'd to carry considerable Quantities into *China*. The Great Emperour of them in our Days was *Taycosana*, who of a poor Seller of Faggots, that got his Living by bringing a Burden of Wood on his Back out of the Forest, and selling it for Bread, by his Bravery and Conduct rais'd himself to so great a Sovereignty, and maintain'd and govern'd it with singular Wisdom and Justice, compelling the lazy People to till the Ground, and restraining their unruly Spirits by wholesome Laws; by which means he made those Kingdoms prosper more than they had ever done before, and the Neighbouring Nations dread his Arms, which he carry'd over to the Continent of *Koray*, which the *Portugueses*, who are acquainted with it, commonly call *Corea*, a Kingdom adjoyning to *China*, whose King found enough to do to defend it.

Wonderful
Fortune.

Being in the Latitude of *Japan*, whose lowest Part call'd *Nangaz*, where the *Portugueses* resided, is in 33 Degrees North, and the Kingdom of *Cantoa* in 40; when we were near the Islands by Observation, we stood over from thence to the Eastward, and discovering some other Islands not known, sail'd many Days on that vast South Sea towards *New Spain*, which we had Sight of in 40 Degrees of North Latitude, at Cape *Mendocina*, on the third of *November*. In this Place again the Needle has no Variation. Then we sail'd down the Coast to the Southward, observing some Islands, there are along it. At our setting out from the *Philippine Islands*

we

we had receiv'd Intelligence that the Ships from *Mexico* were arriv'd; for none can sail thence till others are come, which remain there till the next Year, and that some *Dutch* Ships had pass'd through the Streights of *Magellan* into the South Sea, and therefore we were so notably well provided, that tho' our Loading was worth 400000 Ducats, there were but 7 or 8 Swords, and one scurvy Musket aboard. As we held on our Voyage along the Coast, 2 Leagues from Shore, near *California*, we found our selves in a bright Moonlight Night beset by 3 Ships, the one of them very near us on the Land Side, the other 2 to Seaward at a greater Distance. It is needless to go about to declare the Condition we were in; for the wisest and boldest were quite dispirited: The smaller Ship came up from Landward to hale us, and ask'd us, Whence we came? We answer'd, From *China*; being resolv'd to run aground if they were Enemies. They told us they belong'd to a Squadron the Viceroy of *Peru*, *Don Lewis de Velasco*, had sent out from *Lima*, in Quest of some *Dutch* that had pass'd into the South Sea, and were then looking out for their own Admiral *Don John de Velasco*, who was parted from them in foul Weather, having 300 Men, 40 Pieces of heavy Canon, and 400000 Pieces of Eight of assay'd Silver, worth 13 Ryals each aboard, which they suppos'd had found'r'd at Sea, and so it prov'd. We could not believe them, notwithstanding all these Particulars, looking upon them as meer Fictions, and continued all the Night in this Dread and Fear, till the others coming up in the Morning, saluted us; and some Presents and Compliments passing between us, we cheer'd up, blessing God, who had turn'd our Sorrow into Joy. Thus we held on our Course, passing by the Mouth of the Strait of *California*, which is like the Red Sea, and where an excellent Pearl Fishery has been lately found. Having sail'd above 700 Leagues along the Coast, on the first of *December* we arriv'd at *Acapulco*, the Seaport Town in *New Spain*, on the South Sea, for this Voyage, lying in 16 Degrees 40 Minutes of North Latitude, and is one of the most spacious, the cleanest, and safest from all Winds of any I have seen in the World. We had been four Months and a half at Sea, which was a good Voyage enough. Having rested here a few Days, and dispos'd of my Affairs, I set out for *Mexico*, which is 80 Leagues thence, all a dreadful dangerous Way, over prodigious high craggy Mountains, with abundance of Streams of pure and excellent Water, and thick Woods, the Country thinly peopled, and the Natives heavy and mean spirited. There are three noted Rivers to cross in this Road, that they call *del Papagayo*, or the *Parrot's*, very considerable, and has a Ferry Boat: That nam'd *de las Balsas*, or of *Floats*, like the

Acapulco
Port in
New
Spain.

Road to
Mexico.

Tagus

Tagus in Portugal, its Current very strong, which they cross on Floats, made of Canes fastned on dry Calabashes, drawn over by *Indians* Swimming, at both these Rivers Passengers pay for going over: The third is call'd of *St. Francis*, and tho' broad and carrying much Water, is fordable in several Places. Here I gave my self for lost, having mis'd the Ford, and under God was sav'd by the Goodness of my Horse. The greatest part of this Way is infested with a Plague of *Mosquitos* or Gnats, so dreadful and troublesome, that there is no Defence against them, and they almost kill'd the best Slave I had. Thus travelling with the usual Inconveniences, and crossing the *Marquisate del Valle*, or of the Vale, I enter'd *Mexico* at twelve of the Clock on Christmas Night, and stay'd there till the second of *May*, when I departed for *Spain*. I pass'd over the Mountain they call *Bolcan*, which is a troublesome Pass, and tho' it continually exhales a thick Smoak; is ever cover'd with Snow, which is worth observing, because lying between the *Tropick* and the *Equator*. I pass'd through the City *de los Angeles*, of Angels, commonly call'd *la Puebla*, and others of less Note, till I came to *St. John de Ulva*, a new Port and Town in the *Indies* on the North Sea, between 70 or 80 Leagues from *Mexico*, the common way. This is the only Seaport for many Leagues on that Coast neither easy of Access nor safe, and what little good it has, is rather from Art than Nature.

St. John
de Ulva

I set out thence in the *Flota*, or Fleet of Merchants, on the last Day of *May*, and coasting along to the Northward, we had all like to have perish'd for want of Water, in the Bay of *Tortugas*, or *Tortaisas*, by reason of a Calm, which kept us forty Days, on a Passage that is usually perform'd in ten. At length we arriv'd at the *Havana*, a Port well known, and much resorted to in the Island of *Cuba*. Here the Ship I was in had like to be cast away, and escap'd in a manner miraculously, being oblig'd to lye out, because it was too late to get into the Harbour. At Night the Wind rose so violently, that we lost four Anchors and Cables we had out, and were driving ashore, having never another left, which oblig'd us to hoist out Sail, relying only on Providence, as having neither Water, Provisions, nor Anchors; and tho' we fir'd some Guns, they neither heard us, or if they had was there any possibility of Relief, as the Weather was. In short we ran along the Island, till it pleas'd God, who never forsakes those who confide in him, that the Wind abated about Morning, so that we made back for the Harbour, and being come near it, met the Vice Admiral of the Fleet coming out in a Boat to meet us, with Anchors and Cables. In the midst of the Mouth of the Harbour is a great Flat, on which our Ship stuck, through the Inadvertency of the Pilot, but it pleas'd God she receiv'd no great Harm.

Havana

Harm. We departed *Havana* on the 15th of *July*, and passing thro' the Channel of *Bahama*, and along the Coast of *Florida* and *Berimudas*, sail'd up to the Banks of *New-found-Land*. Thence we struck over for *Spain*, and spy'd Land on the 28th of *August*, in 42 Degrees Latitude, whence we ran along the Coast as far as *Algarve*, and the Weather calming there, had enough to do to save our selves from the Pirate *Murcu Arrays*, who ply'd thereabout with some Galliot, and took some Men belonging to the Fleet, that were going ashore in Boats. The Wind coming up fair, we held on our Course till we Anchor'd at *St. Lúcar*, on the 6th of *September*, and on the 8th I enter'd *Sevil*, whence I proceeded to *Portugal*, taking a great Compass, on account of a Promise made to a Friend, and arriv'd at *Lisbon* on the 8th of *October*. A Year and a half after I left *Malaca*. I do not mention all the Particulars of this Voyage, which are remarkable enough, because I have often told them to my Friends; and my Design being only to give an Account of my latter Journey over Land, I shall be more diffuse in it, to satisfy those Friends I cannot tell it to by Word of Mouth. When I departed *Malaca*, I had left a Sum of Money with my Acquaintance, for them to send it after me to *Portugal* in the trading Ships, confiding in them as I had done at other times, but was now disappointed; and nothing coming, I resolv'd to return to *India*, which I had not before intended. I embark'd on the 28th of *March*; and passing by what happen'd in this Voyage, that I may come to what I propose to write, arriv'd at *Goa* on the 14th of *October*. Being now weary of such long Voyages by Sea, and thinking to cut short this other Way, and at the same time egg'd on by something of Curiosity, I resolv'd to undertake it by Land, whereof this I have mention'd was the Occasion and Motive; and now follows the Account of it.

C H A P. II.

My Departure from *Goa*, and Arrival at *Ormuz*, whence setting out for *Bazora*, I was drove back again.

I Left *Goa* the Metropolis of the Portuguese Dominions in *India*, at the time that *Ayres de Saldanha* was Viceroy, on the 9th

9th of February, 1604, and having spent two Days along the River, embark'd on the 11th in the Morning: We set sail immediately, and steer'd our Course for the Coast of Arabia, which we discover'd on the 2d of March, having had a fair Wind all the Way. The first Land we saw was near the Bay of Mexira, which the Portuguese call *Macieira*: Then we stood to the Northward, and ran two Days along the Coast, till we came to Cape *Rozalgate*, in the same Country of Arabia; and having turn'd it, enter'd the Persian Gulf, which lies between Persia and Arabia, where we still coasted along, discovering many Ships that stood our same Course. One of these, new, and of great Bulk bound from *Buzaim* to *Ormuz*, or *Harmuz*, for so it ought more properly to be call'd, through the Negligence of the Steersman, fell foul of ours, and being much larger run her Boltsprit and Sprit-sail Sail against our Main Mast, and lying athwart us, brought our Vessel so low upon her Side, that we were in great Danger and Dread. The Parser of our Ship, who valu'd himself upon his Bravery, thinking our Honour lay at Stake, snatch'd up two loaded Hand Granadoes, and giving Fire, threw them into the other Ship, and had we not hastily prevented him, would have cast in more till she had been burnt: It pleas'd God she Fire did not take, which if it had, we must have all perish'd inevitably: We labour'd to ungrapple the Ships, cutting much of the Rigging on both Sides, and being clear, held on our Course, till the Wind coming up against us, we anchor'd at *Sissa*, a Port in Arabia. Two Days after, the Wind being fair, we sail'd as far as *Mesente*, another Port on the same Coast, which has more Harbours in this Part, tho' some have writ the contrary. Here we again spent two Days, to Wood and Water, and departing thence, sail'd to *Ormuz*, 60 Leagues distant, where we anchor'd on the 17th of March, a Month after we left Goa. Nothing remarkable is to be seen in all this Way, but what is known, saving a Sort of Birds, whom a natural Antipathy always inclines to pursue one another; and the weakest making from the stronger, fores highest, Fear making him slice or empty himself in his Flight, whilst he that pursues, whether out of Hatred, or for that purpose, keeps at such certain Distance, as to catch the Excrements falling and eat them; and the Natives are of Opinion they live on that filthy Food, which I thought fit to observe as something singular.

Birds feeding on Dung.

Quiexome Island.

I set out from *Ormuz* on the 14th of April, in a small Vessel belonging to the Governour *James Munis Barreto*: We sail'd between the Island *Quiexome* or *Broch*, and the Continent of Persia, thro' a small Arm of the Sea that divides them, the widest

deft Part whereof is about 3 Leagues over, and others under a League and a half. This Island is betwixt 29 and 30 Leagues in Length, and the greatest Breadth 10 or 12. It has some Ports on both Sides, but most of them very Shoal. The best on the Inside are *Dargabon*, *Isaphr*, *Chani* and *Sermion*: On the Outside is the Point or Cape of *Quikcome*, well stor'd with Palm Trees, Orchards and Wells of good Water, whence *Ormus* is generally supply'd, as well as from other Places. Besides that, there are *Klaines* and *Angany*, which being a small Island parted from the other, and forming a large Bay, afford a very safe Harbour capable of many large Ships. This Island is very fruitful, and plentifully produces all that is sow'd or planted in it, as Wheat, Barley, Fruit and Greens, of all which there was great Store when better inhabited than at present, being now very thinly peopled, by reason of the Incursions of the *Nihhelus Arabs*, who have ruin'd it, and this through the Fault of the Governours of *Ormus*, that might easily prevent it with small Trouble and Charge, being but 3 Leagues distant. The Tide failing us, we came to an Anchor in the Midway, expecting the Return of it; but when we were to weigh, the Anchor having lost her Stock, we were fain to lie still to make another, which occasion'd us to lose 2 Days of fair Weather; and that afterwards put us to much Trouble. Departing Cape *Sermion*, being the Point of this Island, we ran up the *Persian Gulf*, close under the *Persian Shore*, our Course West and West North West, with very little Variation, turning in and out as the Land does; our Distance from it always from one to three Leagues, sailing and dropping our Anchor as the Tides happen'd, which ran there very violent twice or thrice a Day, and sometimes oftner, by reason of the Wind there prevailing, which is continually a strong North West. Sailing thus along this Coast, which cannot be done on that of *Arabia*, distant from the other about 50 Leagues in the widest Part, because there is not so good Anchoring nor Watering there, as on this Side, we pass'd by the Islands of *Phutor*, by us call'd *Pelouro*; *Keys*, which we pronounce *Cays*, formerly in as much Repute as now *Ormus* is; *Andrevky*, the Island of *Birds*, so call'd from the infinite Numbers of them resorting to nest there at Night, vast Quantities of whose Eggs the *Arabs* there gather, and carry them to sell in other Parts; and that of *Lor* or *Lava*, all of them 3, 4, 5, or 6 Leagues from the Continent, and ill peopled, because of the frequent Robberies of the *Noutaques* and *Nihhelus*, being *Arabs* dwelling on Part of the Coast of *Persia* so call'd, whence they have their Name. Having anchor'd there, the Wind grew so boisterous, that it compell'd us

Nouta-
ques and
Nihhelus.

to weigh early in the Morning, to get under Shelter of the Island *Lara*, opposite to it. The Wind was strong, the weather Hazy, the Island low, which occasion'd us to run in so close upon it, that we were oblig'd, tho' all our Sails were out, to drop our Anchor, without taking them in, in little above two Fathom Water, to save running directly aground and being beaten to Pieces, and our Escape was almost Miraculous. Whilst we lay here the Wind increas'd to such a Height, and the Ship labour'd so much, that the Rudder Hooks failing, it was just slipping away, had not a little Boy shew'd it me, and I acquainted the Officers, who laying hold, brought it aboard. Some were for carrying it to the Island to be mended, others were for doing it aboard, and these, as God would have it prevail'd, for had we Landed no doubt but some Misfortune had happen'd; for as we were afterwards inform'd, there were some *Nibhelus* on the Island waiting to kill any *Portuguese* that should Land, and it was a Wonder that none went ashore, as is usual. A small *Moorish* Vessel had taken Shelter under the same Island, at a little distance from us, loaded with Cotton and bound for the same Port. Two Barks of the *Nibhelus* drew close, and thinking to surprize her in the Night, fell on before Day; but they defended themselves bravely. We hearing the Noise of Weapons and seeing the Fire, discharg'd some Guns, to scare the Enemy and encourage the others, and weighing with all Speed, drew near as the Dawn began to appear, which the Robbers perceiving, they retir'd with considerable Loss; some of the *Moors* being wounded, who came aboard us to be dress'd, and from that time forward kept closer to us.

Coast of
Persia-

Almost all this Coast of *Persia* is Mountains, Craggy and Barren, excepting only some Spots of Ground among those Hills, which the Natives till, making use of Wells to water it; besides they breed some Cattle, both great and small, affording them Milk, Butter and Cheese, for their own use and to sell. We sail'd along that Coast 35 Days, with much Trouble and Vexation; and began now to want Provisions, which could not be bought ashore, the Country being all in an Uproar, on Account of many wrongs the People had receiv'd from the *Portugueses* cruising about in their Frigats. We were now come to *Chilao*, near *Verdoftam*, a Town seated on a Bay between the Point of *Vedican* and the Shoals of *Kane*, and the contrary Wind grew so strong and continu'd so fix'd, that it oblig'd our Captain, want beginning to pinch, after the loss of an Anchor and Cable, and much Danger of running a ground, the Land being close by, to order we should make back for *Orimux*, which we reach'd in four Days, tho' 80 Leagues distant, after spending 35 in making that small Way. In our Return

turn, we were met by some Barks of Robbers, which are never wanting in that Sea, and therefore, when any such *Portuguese* trading Vessels sail from *Ormuz*, they have always a Convoy of some Foists, or small fighting Ships. We put again into *Ormuz*, on Friday the 21th of May, and anchor'd in the *Bandel*, or Port on the West Side, 39 Days after we departed that same Place, well fatigu'd and full of Vexation.

CHAP. III.

My second setting out from Ormuz, and reaching the Bottom of the Golph of Persia, where entering the Rivers Tigris and Euphrates, I came to the City Bazora.

HAVING refitted and laid in Provisions at *Ormuz*, we sail'd again on the 17th of June, in Hopes of a better Voyage, being assur'd by such as knew those Seas, that the North West Wind was not then so constant or violent, and some Difference we found, but not so much as they gave out. This time we kept without the Island *Queixome*, and running along the same Coast as before, pass'd the Flats of *Kame*, and beyond them the Fort of *Roxel*, famous for the great Plenty of Corn and Fruit its Territory produces. It belongs to the *Xa*, or King of *Persia*, standing on the Edge of the Sea on his Side, and well Garrison'd. Farther on to the Northward is *Regh Ceyfadin*, that is, the Strand or Shore of *Ceyfadin*, inhabited by *Arabs*, as is most of this *Persian* Coast, and they Tributary to the *Xa*, tho' some for their Security in Sailing about, own the *Portuguese* Authority, and take Passes from them to trade, without which they would be in Danger, from the *Portuguese* Vessels cruising in that Streight. Those of *Regh Ceyfadin* were at this time at Variance with the *Portuguese*, on Account of Wrongs receiv'd from them, as was said above, and therefore all the Inhabitants of the Island *Karg*, which is 3 Leagues from the Continent, were fled for Fear of four Gallies that were with us. This Island is about two Leagues in Compass, affording good Shelter against the North West Wind, is Stony and Mountainous, has good Waters, some Palm Trees, and small Cattle, and produces mighty Quantities of Onions, whercof whole Loads are carry'd to *Bazora* and other

ther Sea Ports; the Inhabitants are almost all *Arabs*. Here we anchor'd on the 25th of July, and staid four Days on Account of the contrary Winds. Thus far run the uncouth Mountains of *Persia*, along the Edge of the Sea; and from this Place strike farther up the Country, till out of sight from the Sea, near to which the Land is so low, that it cannot be discern'd at a very small Distance. Near this Place two mighty Rivers come down from *Persia* to empty themselves, the one at *Rexer*, and the other at *Regh Coyfadin*.

Karab
Channel,

Hence we directed our Course Westward, quite without Sight of Land, tho' we were very near it, by reason of its lowness, under the Conduct of a *Moorish* Pilot we took in at *Karge*, who tho' reckned the ablest in those Parts, was very near setting us a Ground, in a Channel call'd *Karab*, which signifies broken or ruin'd, they having a Tradition, that a great City stood in that Place, and was overwhelm'd by reason of the lowness of the Land. This Channel is about four Leagues in length, with many Flats, so that they always found all the way in passing it, and keep the Boat a Head, because of the great uncertainty of the Depth, the most being but three Fathom Water. When out of it, we found more Water, saw Land on both Hands, and keeping close to the *Persian* Side, on the first of August came to an Anchor, in the Mouth of *Xat el Arab*, which signifies, the River of the *Arabs*, who call a great River *Xat*, and a small one *Ker*, or *Wed*, from which last those in Spain were call'd *Wedelgucbir*, *Wedelager*, *Wedyana*, chang'd into *Guadalquivir*, *Guadalquivir*, and *Guadiana*, and so of others. This River, whose fresh Water is taken up near three Leagues out at Sea, is form'd higher in the Country of the two famous Streams the *Tygris* and the *Euphrates*, which meet at *Carna* the utmost Point of the Country of *Mesopotamia*, that lyes between them, three Days Journey above *Bazora*, where the *Turks* have a Fort, call'd *as* has been said *Corna*, signifying a Point, commanding the Passage of them both, as they meet here, watering mighty Plains on both Sides; those to the Northward being the *Persian* Side, in the Possession of *Morbarck*, the Son of *Moselab* a powerful *Arab*, who holds them, and makes War on the *Turk*, pretending a Title to them, and *Bazora*, within which District are the considerable Cities of *Magdom*, *Oera*, and *Doreka*. A great part of them is Desert, tho' not Barren, but left untill'd for fear of the *Turks*. Those next to *Arabia* are fruitful, cultivated, and full of Palm-trees Orchards, and Gardens. Just at the Entrance this River fetches a great Compass, and then returns to its Course, being there from West to East. The Breadth of it is about two Miles, and the Depth at this time, when lowest was about six Fathom, little over or under,

Xat Arab
River.

der, and the Stream very rapid. Along the Banks there are mighty Breeds of great and small Cattel, abundance of Ducks and Geese, besides other Birds and Beasts. The Inhabitants are *Arabs*, who have Commerce among themselves swimming on Skins blown full of Wind, and in this manner many of them came aboard our Ship to sell Fowls, Geese, Milk, Butter, Dates, and other Provisions, all very cheap. The Wind being contrary, and blowing hard, we went up the River very slowly, and having Sail'd up about eight or nine Leagues, came to a Place where it divides into two equal Parts, one whereof striking to the Southward, enters *Arabia* and runs into the same Gulph of *Persia*, at *Kaifa* near *Barhem*, making an Island of that Spot of Land, above eighty Leagues in Length. The other Part is that we Sail'd on, and from thence upward, being all united it is wider, deeper, and more rapid. A little farther on, we found a small Island in the middle, a League long, and about half in Breadth, pleasant enough, and full of Palm-trees and Orchards, which dividing the Waters makes two ways, whereof that next to *Arabia* is deepest. Holding on our way, on the sixth of *August*, by eight in the Morning we reach'd *Sernage*, fifteen or sixteen Leagues from the Bar, where the greater Vessels use to Anchor, till they unload, as we did, opposite to a Fort the Turks have on the Brink of the River, and the Lands of *Adonbareka*, as they have others, both above and below it, to secure the Country under their Protection, from the IncurSIONS of the *Arabs*. I left the Ship and went up a Creek, that has about two Fathom Water, when the Tide is out, and above three at the Flood, which reaches above this Place, yet changes not the Taste of the Water. Both Sides of it is all Corn Fields, Palm tree Groves and pleasant Orchards, water'd by Trenches drawn from the Creek. Having gon less than a League up this Water, I arriv'd at *Bazora*.

This City is inhabited by *Arabs*, and seated two Miles West from the River *Kan Anab* before mention'd, to be compos'd of the *Tigris* and *Euphrates*, the Creek already mention'd making the Communication with it, and has the same by Land, which is all divided by Trenches cut acrofs for use. It stands in a Plain, and contains both within and without the Fort about 10000 large and spacious Houses, besides the smaller, but the Building mean, being all mud Walls, which scarce hold three Years, before they run to Ruin. Those of the poorer sort are generally made of Mats, and Bundles of small Reeds, whereof the Rivers produce great plenty. Here is a square Fort, somewhat oblong, the Walls and Bastions whereof, and there are several of them, all of Earth, and then almost decay'd. The whole encompass'd by a broad and deep

Bazora
City.

deep Ditch, fed from the Creek, within this Fort are near 10000 Houses of all sorts, and there is the main Trade, and the most considerable Part of the City, being the Residence of most Handicrafts, the Government and the Garrison consisting of 3000 Men, *Turks*, *Curds*, and *Arabs*, besides those that belong to the Forts without. There is a *Bassa*, who has the whole Power in Civil and Military Affairs, a Custom-house, the Duties whereof are very considerable, so that they defray the Charge of the Garrison and all other Expences, and there is much to spare. In the Arsenal are many good Pieces of Canon and some Gallies, but these few, small, and ill shap'd. One of this sort was launch'd whilst I was there, and they have them not against the *Portugueses*, as a certain Author has writ, well knowing they can do them no Harm, but to serve in the River and Parts adjacent to curb the rebellious *Arabs*, from whom they gather great Tribute. These Gallies, tho' small, are excessive costly, because the Country is quite destitute of Timber, and it is chargeable bringing it from other Parts. A Bridge of eight Boats lyes across the Creek, and in other Places the People pass over in Boats they call *Danequas*, made of any small bits of Wood, for want of larger, and tho' built in that manner and not caulk'd they are very staunch, being daub'd instead of Tar with a sort of Bitumen they call *Quir*, which I shall speak of hereafter. *Bazora* abounds in Provisions, and particularly Dates, which are very good, and so plentiful, that great quantities are yearly sent thence to *Bagdat*, and the Ports of *Persia* and *Ormuz*, being the chief Sustenance of the common People. The Land produces all sorts of Grain and Greens, Wheat, Barley, Rice, Pulse, in great Plenty, and very cheap, which things being also brought from *Rexer*, *Regh Ceyfadin*, and *Dorek*, the Price is much abated. There are mighty numbers of great and small Cattle, and all sorts of Fowl. The River has much Fish, but not good. Here is a Trade with *Ormuz*, which furnishes all *India* Commodities; as also with *Barhen*, *Catifa*, *Easan*, *Persia*, *Bagdat*, and all *Arabia* on that side. The worst thing here is an infinite number of Scorpions, some of them as big as small Crabs. The Air is unwholesome, the Weather excessive hot, the Inhabitants *Turks* and *Arabs*, most of the last being the Natives, and these generally well Featur'd, especially Women and Children, the first of them reckon'd Unclean; They make use of Camels, Mules, Asses and Horses, of which last there are great Breeds, and being very numerous and good, they are sent to *Ormuz* and thence to *India*.

When I came to *Bazora*, there were many Houses ruin'd, both within and without the Fort, and then rebuilding with much speed. This Destruction was occasion'd eight or ten Days before my Arrival,

rival, by the blowing up of a Magazine of Powder, in which 3000 and odd Skins full of it were burnt, with such a dreadful Noise, that they thought the whole Frame of the Universe had been torn in Pieces, doing incredible Damage throughout the greatest Part of the City, which has now stood about 200 Years in this Place, being the third Situation it has had. It is above 50 Years since it has been possess'd by the *Turks*, by whom an *Arabian* Tyrant was supported, who seized and put it into their Hands. It is needless to speak of the Customs, Habit, and manner of living of the Inhabitants, for being *Turks* and *Arabs* those things are well known. All sorts of Gold and Silver Coins are Current in the Country for their value; but what is Coin'd there in a Mint is of Silver and Copper. The *Darines* are of Silver, being a long Coin of two twisted Branches, worth 65 *Maravedies*, that is, about eight Pence, another is call'd *Xays* round like a Royal, and near about the same Value, that is six Pence. This is not so true Standard as the former, which is extraordinary fine. There is no Structure of Note in the City; but there are some publick Baths, very decent and well serv'd, where the Method is, that Men go in till Noon, and Women from that time till Sun set, which is so religiously observ'd, that any Man would be most severely punish'd that should attempt to invert this Order. That Cut of Water, which as I have said was made by Hand, runs far up the Country fertilizing spacious Fields, and watering abundance of Palm trees. Some old People assur'd me, that it was formerly Navigable as far as a Town thirty Leagues distant, of which it now falls very short, and is still remarkable to be cut by Hand. I was carry'd about three Leagues up it one Day, to see a *Xequé*, or Lord, who is possess'd of many of the Lands I afterwards pass'd through. His Name was *Xequé Mahamed Eben Raxet*, a Man for his Presence and Aspect, worthy of a greater Post. He discours'd with me a long time, by means of an Interpreter, and seem'd to be well pleas'd because he had never seen any *Frank*, so they call the *European* Christians, and he admir'd my Garb, Language, and Behaviour, curiously observing every thing. After many kind offers, and being treated with some Goats Flesh, ill boil'd, which was no small Favour, I took my Leave; and going back down the River, which is very pleasant, I saw the *Mahometans* that were in the Boat with me, rise up at a certain Place, and Pray with much Attention. I look'd towards the Place they fac'd to in praying, and discover'd a House like an Hermitage standing on the Banks of the River, and asking what Place that was, they answer'd it was Dedicated to *Iza Ben Mariam*, that is, *JESUS* the Son of *Mary*, shewing me a considerable Quantity of Land, and Palm-
D tree

Moors
Worship
Christ.

tree Groves, whose Revenues belong'd to that Chappel, which I much admir'd, for tho' I knew that the *Mahometans* honour him much by the Title of *Rnyalah*, which signifies the Breath of God, I had never heard that they Dedicated any Church to him.

C H A P. IV.

My Departure from Bazora through the Desert, and a Diary of my Journey, till I came to Mexat Aly, a City in the same Desert.

AT my coming to *Bazora* I took up my Lodging in the House of one *Santo Fome*, a *Venetian* Merchant, with whom I came from *Ormuz*, in order to undertake this Journey with him, and a *Criollo*, or *Indian* born Gentleman, call'd *James de Melo de Sam Payo*, as also another *Portuguese*, whose Name was *John Pinto*, a very worthy Man, both of them more deeply engag'd and concern'd with the aforesaid *Pointe*. Coming to Discourse of our proceeding on our Way, I understood we must stay there four or five Months at least, because the River *Tygris* had not then Water enough for the Barks, which us'd to carry Goods to *Bagdat*, and there would be still less till *Christmas*, when it begins to rise with the Rains, and there is no Sailing without, by reason there are many Shoals, and the Robbers have the Opportunity of setting upon the Barks, as they often do; besides that when the Water is low they are not able to toe, or draw along the Vessels, as they do almost all the way, which when the Water is deep enough lasts between thirty five and fifty Days, and when shallow, almost twice as long, as it hapned to a parcel of Boats that set out from *Bazora* twenty five Days before we arriv'd there, and was three Months on the way to *Bagdat* with much Trouble and Charge. Whilst I was thus perplex'd, a *Caravan* began to fit out in order to go by Land, through the Desert of *Arabia*, a Way before not frequented and uncertain. Despairing of an Opportunity in any time by the River, I propos'd to go with this *Caravan*, and consulting about it with such as were capable to advise me, they started a thousand Difficulties; notwithstanding all which I resolv'd to go in this Company, since I had no Business of Moment to stay me, and might thus save Time. For the better compassing of it, I contracted with the Cap-

tain

tain of the Caravan, who was an Arabian Mahometan Inhabitant of Badora, his Name *Agi Mahamed Bensalah Arfani*, by the Interposition of one *Mustapha*, a Renegado Jew turn'd Turk, in whom the Portuguese and Venetians trading there, reposed much Confidence. He made the Bargain that he should carry me, my Bed, and small Equipage, to Bagdat, for 50 Ducats, and find me Attendance and Victuals, which was all the Way, as usual with them, very little, nasty, and at unseasonable Hours. Some Amends was made by a Sack of choice Bisket and some Boxes of Marmalade, which he help'd me to spend more hastily than 'tis likely he wou'd have done, had they been his own. I took with me 3 Bates of Indigo to defray my Charges, which he was also oblig'd to carry, clear of all Duties and Impositions, and this I found the cheapest, not so much for the Charge as to save the Trouble I saw others put to, about paying the Duties for themselves and their Goods. When I was ready to depart, *James de Melo* resolv'd to go with me, without waiting for *Santo Fonte*, who could not dispatch so soon, by reason he had abundance of Goods to dispose of; so that he agreed with *Mustapha* afore said, and we set out, I being much oblig'd to another Venetian Merchant, whose Name was *Jerome Bon Tempely*, who did me many Favours.

On the South Side of Badora is a large open Plain, where a Journey by great Market and Fair is kept; and on Fridays the Mahometans Land to who are numerous and good Horsemen, meet on Horseback to Bagdat. solemnize that Day, which is their Festival, and only distinguished from other Days in this Ceremony, and more punctual Meeting in the Mosques; for they make no Scruple of Working or following their common Business on it. Having taken leave of our Friends, on the 2d of September, we went to this Place, whence the Caravan set forward, and lay there that Night, which was the first of the many bad ones we afterwards had, waiting for our Captain, who had not yet dispatch'd all his Business. The next Day being Friday the 3d we follow'd the rest, I on a Camel, and my Companions on Horseback. We rode about half a League thro' Palm-Tree Groves, and then enter'd upon desert Plains that us'd to be overflow'd, and at this time were cover'd with Salt, made by the violent Heat of the Sun, of the Water of the Persian Gulf, which tho' above ten Leagues distant, sometimes drowns them; so that very much Land before fruitful, is quite lost. We rode along a Bank rais'd by Hand, 6 or 7 Spans high and 5 in Breadth, for 4 Leagues, till we came to a Place call'd *Drahemya*, where we took up our Lodging, in the Ruins of the second Badora, whereof there are

Fields of Salt.

some Remains to be seen, as the Walls of a great *Mosque*, part of those which inclos'd the City, and of the Ditch, and it appears to have been a great City. There are some Wells of good Water, and the Land is cultivated, and yields Wheat, Barley, and Herbs. Thus far we travell'd to the Southward; and continued here all *Saturday* and *Sunday* following, beginning to feel the excessive Heat of the Sun, which is intolerable at that time. On *Monday* the 6th of *September* we mov'd, after much contending with the *Arabs* intrusted by *Xequo Mahomet Eben Raxet*, Lord of those Lands, whom I said before, I was carry'd to visit, about some Duties to be paid by such as travel that Way with Merchandise. The Usage I now and at other times saw many met with, made me think all I had given the Captain well bestow'd, to ease me of so much Trouble. Here we began to advance West North West, thro' Desarts wonderful plain, leaving a very high Mountain 6 or 7 Leagues off, on our Left Hand, which I judg'd might be 2 Leagues in Length, call'd by the *Arabs*, *Gibel Sinam*, being that *Sinam*, where formerly the first *Bazora* stood. They say it has Plenty of Water, which is there taken by the *Caravans* that go from *Bazora* to *Mecca*, that being their Way. All these Lands and the rest about are so very level, that the Mountain look'd like an Island in the midst of the Sea. Having travell'd little above 2 Leagues we halted at Noon near certain Wells of good Water, in a Field full of *Coloquintida*, which the *Arabs* of the Desert make use of to cure their Diseases, infusing it in Camels Milk. The *Arabs* call this Place *Bragacya* or *Cobrocya*, signifying *A Place of Ducats*. Here all the *Caravan* was together, which tho' small, consisted of 150 Camels, 95 Asses, and 12 Horses. Here we found some People, who as soon as they saw us made away, and we were inform'd they were wretched *Baduines*, that is, miserable poor *Arabs*, who range about those Desarts by Families, naked, or clad in Skins of Beasts they hunt for Food, as Deer, Wild Goats, and Asses, Wolves, Foxes, Hares, and the like. We broke up from hence about 4 in the Afternoon, travell'd thro' Plains like those before mention'd, full of many Wells of good sweet Water; passing by the Ruins of 2 great Houses, formerly the Dwelling of those who till'd the Fields, which are all call'd *Choa Bاده*; and having advanc'd about 2 Leagues farther, took up our Quarters in a barren Field, without any Water, to stay for one of our Camels, that fell under his Burthen, and was left behind.

Tuesday the 7th we set forward before Day, and travell'd thro' a mighty plain Country, and excessive dry, the Sun violent hot,

Old Bazora.

hot, and a strong South Wind, which scorch'd like Fire. Our Journey was long; for meeting with no Water, we went till Noon above 5 Leagues and a half, and pitch'd our Camp in a Plain the *Arabs* call *Reamelah*, where were 3 Wells of dirty, thick and brackish Water; but much Thirst made it go down very well. This Day 2 Camels fell three Times under me; for which reason the Captain to accommodate me the better, bought a good Camel and an *Als* of one of our Company, which he afterwards paid very ill for. This Journey was to the North and North West. *Wednesday* the 8th we set out before Day Westward, riding over sandy Fields and dry Desarts, till one in the Afternoon, for about 7 Leagues, and rested in a Plain call'd as well as the other *Choa Bedeh*, exactly like a Threshing Floor, and about 2 Leagues in Compass. In the midst of it were 8 Cottages of *Beduines*, like those before mention'd, cover'd with thick Cloths made of Goats Hair. Here were some Wells of filthy stinking Water, drawing some out of one of which, we pull'd up a great Poisonous Snake dead. All this Day there was a mighty thick Smoke to the Northward, which they told us was on the Banks of the River *Euphrates*, where the *Arabs* inhabiting those Parts, burnt the Reeds in order to Sow. That was about 2 good Days Journey from us; and all the Way we saw many Hares and Field Mice: These last are about as big as our common large ones, their Hair sad Colour, with an Eye of white, their Ears, Fore Feet, and Tails, are like a Mouse, but the End of the Tail, the Eyes and Head, are like a Rabbit, and the Hind Legs resemble those of a wild Goat: They are very swift at a sort of leaping Run, make Burrows under Ground, and there are great Numbers of them in that Desert, which the *Arabs* eat, and say they are good Meat. We left this Place at 4 in the Afternoon, and proceeding 3 Leagues farther, thro' a fatter Land, and not so plain, took up after Sun-set in a sort of Vale without any Water, yet had some wither'd Weeds, and Abundance of large Snakes. This is also comprehended under the Name of *Choa Bedeh*. *Thursday* the 9th we got up with the Dawn, and march'd about 6 or 7 Leagues over sands and troublesome Desarts till Noon, when we came to a Well that was pay'd, the Water of it clear and fresh, but of such a noisome Scent, that there was no coming near it. I thought it might be occasion'd for want of the Sun's Coming to it, and not being stirr'd, because about 30 Fathom deep; but was undeceiv'd by seeing a Snake with Feet, drawn out of it in a Bucket, being 4 Spans in Length, and almost one in Breadth; a hideous Creature, by the *Arabs* call'd *Hhem* and *Hkyuna*, and

Field Mice.

and *Ahen*, all which signifie Eyes. On the Way we found a *Gazelle* or Beast like a Roe, newly dead, without any Hurt we could perceive, but guess'd it might be bit by some Snake. At a small Distance were abundance of Ostrich Feathers, which the Camel drivers carefully pick'd up, being much valu'd in those Parts. We saw very many Hares and Field Mice, and travell'd Westward. Going on again at 4 in the Afternoon the same Way, at the End of 13 Leagues we pitch'd our Tent in a great Plain, strew'd with Salt, and without any Water.

Friday the 10th we set out two Hours before Day, through Lands like the last, towards the West South West, and at 3 Leagues End came among great Mountains of Sand, with some Shrubs, a very bad Way, insomuch that what with that and what with the Heat of the Sun and Want of Water, some Camels and Asses perish'd, and the Men almost spent, at one in the Afternoon, came to a plain Spot lying under a Bank of Sand, full of *Coloquintida*, and call'd by the *Arabs* *Hynigha*. Here was a Parcel of *Arabian* Robbers, who seeing the *Caravan* make ready to stand on its Defence, went away. There were several Wells, but all of them stopp'd up with Mud. When a little clear'd they all yielded Plenty of good pure Water, some at a Fathom, others at a Cubit, 2, or 3, in Depth, so that we fill'd our selves and took Provision, praising God, that he had afforded us that Relief when we were almost dead. This Day we travell'd about 8 Leagues, which might be reckon'd 14, considering the Badness of the Way, the Heat of the Sun, our Hunger and Thirst, and the Dread of the *Arabian* Robbers, that generally infest the Deserts and wait where there is Water, in hopes of a Booty, and spare not one another, when they are of different Families or Tribes; and therefore the *Caravans* always hire some *Arabs* of those Hords, they may meet with, that they may be spar'd for their Sake, as we did; and they serv'd us to this Purpose, and as Pilots, to shew us the Way and Waters; for there is no travelling without: Nor were we more afraid of Strangers, than of those we had with us, because they are a faithless, unsteady, and extraordinary covetous People, and being perswaded that the *Franks*, which are the *European* Christians, are all very rich, they never cease meditating to rob, and on that Score sometimes kill them. God be prais'd that he deliver'd us from them; for they had some Practices against us, and particularly against *James de Mela*, who was in the Company, because they saw he carry'd himself haughtily, and expected much Attendance, which caus'd him Trouble enough all the Way; a thing he who designs to travel there, ought

Arabian
Robbers

ought carefully to avoid, that he may be as little as possible observ'd by the *Arabs*, who rarely take Notice of Men for any Good, without some Hope of Profit. We were in such a Condition when we came to this Place, that we durst not venture any farther, and therefore lay there at Night, some *Jews* that came in the *Caravan* being gone before the last Night, in Company of an *Arab*, the Captain uses to allow them upon such Occasions for their Guard, for which they give him some Consideration at the End of the Journey. They go before, that gaining so much Ground, they may rest on *Saturday*, when they must not travel without being left behind the *Caravan*. *Saturday* the 11th having rested most part of the Day near the Wells, we mov'd at 5 in the Afternoon 2 Leagues to the North West, and halted before Sun-set to stay for a loaded Camel that lagg'd behind; for this they are subject to, who travel with *Caravans*.

Sunday the 12th we set forward 3 Hours before Sun rising, to the West North West, through a very Plain Country, with only some small Hillocks, all good Land, but dry. Having gone a League and a half we found some Wells of good Water, but went on, and at 11 in the Morning came to a dry Channel, which in Winter they say has much Water, and I thought it likely by the Nature of its Situation and Capaciousness. Over it, on a rising Ground is still an ancient square Fort, with 12 Bastions, 2 on each Side, made of burnt Brick and Lime, strong and well built. Without it at about 60 Paces Distance, is a small *Alcoran* or Tower ten Cubits high, tho' it appear'd to have been higher, of the same Structure, all decay'd with Age; yet it appears to be a Royal Fabrick, by its Goodness and the Place it stands in, where it could not be rais'd without mighty Cost and much Labour, and Difficulty. It was done by an *Arabian* King, Grandfather to *Xeque Mahomed Eben Raxet*, whom I said before I was carry'd to see, to secure the *Caravans* going that way before the *Turks*, possess'd themselves of *Bagdat* and *Bazora*. The *Arabs* call it *Alcayzar* or *Kayzar*, which signifies, a Palace or *Cesar's* House, for so they call all that belong to Kings or Princes. This they reckon the half way from *Bazora* to *Mexas Aly*, whither we were going. We found some Wells in this Channel, the Water of them clear and fresh, but of an intolerable ill Scent, yet Necessity prevail'd. This Journey was about 8 Leagues, and here we stay'd till four in the Afternoon, when we advanc'd three Leagues farther and halted at Sun setting. This Day five Camels dy'd with being over wrought, whose Flesh all the *Caravan* fed on, and invited us to do the same; but we did not, tho' our Provisions began to fall short. *Monday* the 13th, the *Caravan* mov'd

Fort in a
Desart.

mov'd three Hours before Day to the North West, over plain Grounds, apt to be overflow'd by the River *Euphrates*, when it swells, being a small Days Journey from thence, and they are full of Salt Peter, Stony, and have some wild Shurbs. Having travell'd about 7 Leagues by Eleven in the Morning, we halted on an uneven sandy Field, to expect some Camels that were left behind, one of which dy'd, and being oblig'd to send another to fetch his Load, we lay there all that Night. The Water was on our Right Eastward, a little above half a League distant, which when brought was not very pleasing to us, for tho' clear and thin, it was as Salt as that in the Sea.

Springs of
Sayda.

Tuesday the 14th we held on our Journey, an Hour before Sun rising through a Country like the last mention'd, and having travell'd about six Leagues by 11 of the Clock, settl'd in a Plain, half a League from some Wells there are among the Ruins of an ancient large Town, whereof only the Rubbish now appears, and these Wells, with some Palm Trees. The *Arabs* now call the Place *Hayun Sayda*, that is, the Springs of *Sayda*. The Water was not very good, yet better than the Day before. At four of the Clock in the Afternoon, we left this Place and went three Leagues farther. *Wednesday* the 15th we began our Journey two Hours before Day towards the North West, and having travell'd about an Hour, saw a great Fire to the Eastward, which all the Company said was made by *Arabian Beduyn* Robbers. The Country was not plain like that before, but Hilly, and having gone six Leagues, we took up at 10 in the Morning, in a Place the *Arabs* call *Kalb alfor*, that is, Cows or Oxes Heart, where was a Well of dirty stinking Water. Here, upon Information given by one of the Pilots of the *Caravan*, an *Arab* was seiz'd, being positively reported to be a Spy belonging to a Tribe or Hord of *Arabs* hard by, and had bore us Company from *Bazora*, to go and give Notice from that Place, for them to come and rob us; and tho' he confidently deny'd what was charg'd upon him, however to prevent all Danger, they carry'd him bound to *Alexa Aly*. The same Day we proceeded four Leagues farther, and incamp'd after Sun set, in a convenient Place, more orderly than before, intrrenching our selves about with the Loads of Goods, the Men, Camels and Beasts in the middle, all the Arms in Readiness, and four Men the *Caravan* brought for that Purpose keeping Guard all Night very watchfully, with Fires, as well for Fear of the Robbers there are about that Place, as of the Lions, and the more for that one had the Day before attack'd a Man in our Company, but it pleas'd God he was not hurt; and it was a wonder,

der, that so many being in those Parts, we saw very few, and those not near.

Thursday the 16th, setting out three Hours before Sun rising, after two Leagues riding we came into a large Brake, through which in Winter runs a Rapid Stream, by the Arabs call'd *Hhanega*, signifying, the drowning Place; perhaps the Name might be given it from the Misfortune of some People or Beasts; along this Brake there were some Trees and Green Grass. After travelling about 8 Leagues North West, we rested at Noon, in a pleasant Place, somewhat Shaded with Reeds and Shrubs, having Wells of good Water, and call'd by the Arabs, *Semar*. From three in the Afternoon till ten at Night, we march'd about five Leagues farther through an uncouth, dry, stony and uneven Country, having all this Days Journey seen many Flocks of wild Asses. Friday the 17th, having advanc'd two Hours before Day, we were alarm'd, as the Light appear'd, by 50 Arabian Robbers, who pass'd before us on 25 Camels, for they commonly traverse that Desert by two and two on a Camel; and when they resolve to fall on, they alight at some Distance, where they bend one fore Foot of each Camel, and tye it up which makes them not stir out of the Place, and then they give the Attack. Their usual Weapons are Spears, Bows and Arrows, Swords, Bucklers and *Chiniales*, which are like great Broad Daggers bow'd. Many of them also ride about the Desert on Horseback. The Cavalry, that is, the Company of Travellers stood to their Arms, there being among us about 40 Archers, 12 Musquetiers, 4 Horsemen with Spears, besides some other Hand Weapons. The Robbers pass'd by without stopping, we suspecting they durst not attempt us, being so few, and were gone to call more, but they did not return. However we kept upon our Guard, travelling in the best Order we could: Those that were best arm'd, march'd in the Van, Skipping and Singing aloud, to encourage one another to fight the Enemy in Defence of themselves and the Company. We perform'd this Journey, being between 3 and 4 Leagues at full Speed, in Sight of a great Lake form'd there by the Water of the River *Euphrates*, of which I shall speak hereafter. Being so fearful of Robbers, and so spent with Riding, the Heat, Hunger, and Thirst; that every thing disturb'd and alarm'd us; so that making up to a Water to rest, as we afterwards did, and perceiving some People about it, we concluded they were Robbers. All the Company made ready to engage them: but one of the Arabian Pilots or Guides, clapping Spurs to a Grey Mare he rode; for they rather make use of them than of Horses, reckoning they are more fleet, safer, and

Hhanega
Stream.

Utcela
Water.

easier to be kept in the Deserts, came up with them wonder-
ful swiftly in a Moment, and having view'd them, return'd to
inform us they were *Beduin* Hunters, who had their Cottages
there for the Sake of the Water, which ran in a great Stream,
by the *Arabs* call'd *Utcela*. The Water was plentiful and good,
the Place cool and shady, with Trees, Reeds, Rushes, and other
Plants, and we came to it at one in the Afternoon, having tra-
vell'd 6 Leagues. At three we held on our Way, leaving the
Jews there, because the next Day was *Saturday*, when they
could not travel, and advancing 3 Leagues farther, took up our
Lodging in a Plain where there was no Water. *Saturday* the
18th we mov'd 2 Hours before Day, over a plain Country to
the North West, about 2 Leagues from the Side of the Lake;
and having travell'd about 8, came to the Head of it, or North
End, at one in the Afternoon. All the Lands we rode over this
Day are sow'd with Wheat, Barley, Cotton and Greens, being
water'd by a little fresh Brook that runs across them.

Notable
Cookery.

We had sight of the Town of *Mexat Aly* ever since Morning,
as being seated on an Eminency over the Lake, to the Eastward,
and that Scituation deceived us, making it appear nearer than it
was. But particularly *James de Melo* thought so, and being
desirous to rest, he rode before, his haste cost him his Horse,
which dy'd with the Heat and Fatigue, and he himself fell sick.
In this Place there was fresh Water and green Grass, but no
shelter against the Sun, whose Reflection was violent. We made
the best shift we could, but I fear'd worse than many others,
because I could not prevail upon my self to eat of a Dish of
Rice my Captain had caus'd to be dress'd, with much of the Fat
and Grease of a Camel that dy'd by the way, and my Wallet be-
ing very low, I was forc'd to have Patience till Night, when
Provision was not much more plentiful. We left this Place at
three in the Afternoon, travelling apace along the side of the
Lake, between it and the Foot of the Rock adjoining to it, some-
times directing our Course North, sometimes East, and sometimes
South. Having travell'd about six Leagues we came to *Mexat
Aly*, an Hour after Night, going up a high and steep Hill to it
from the Lake, at the Foot whereof many Men and Children came
and saluted us all in general, and particularly their Kindred and
Acquaintance.

Being this Day, whilst the *Caravan* rested at the Head of the
Lake, in the Hut of one *Xequé Alaby* my great Friend, he com-
plain'd that a Camel he rode on was much hurt in his fore Foot,
and that being an easy Goer it would trouble him if the Beast
could not hold out the Journey. The words were scarce out of
his

his Mouth, when they brought him the Camel, and with him one of the *Arabian* Pilots, or Guides; then causing him to lye down, the *Arab* took up his Foot, to see what it ail'd, and found a large and deep Hole in the bottom of it, which put him to great Pain. He cleans'd it with an Iron, picking out abundance of small Stones and clammy Earth; when well clear'd, he stop'd it up with Cotton and burnt Rags, then took a Piece of Leather, big enough to cover the Foot and sow'd it on, giving one Stich in the Foot, and another on the inside of the Leather, just as they sole a Stocken, so artificially that I was amaz'd at it, and thus the Beast could go and grew better, without receiving any other Harm. This I have mention'd to show how able a Mistress Necessity is, even among the most barbarous People.

Norahle
Cue of a
Camel.

The Lake before mention'd, comes from the River *Emphrates*, whose Waters when there are Floods run off that Way, by reason of the Disposition of the Ground, and many others flowing in from other Parts of the Desert, they form that which is like a Sea; and this appears by the Marks the Water leaves, which is fifty Spans higher at the time of Inundations, than when I saw them, which was the time they are lowest. This Lake has no regular Shape, but runs out into several Bays, and extends more in Length than otherwise, the Circumference being between thirty five and forty Leagues, and the widest Place six Leagues over. About the middle of it is a Pass that may be forded by Camels, when the Water is lowest, which was at the time I was there, all other Parts are deeper. The Water comes fresh into it, but becomes salt there by reason the Land is full of Salt-peter, so that abundance of Salt is made of it, only by the violent Heat of the Sun, and serves the Towns about and *Bagdat*. The Water is not so salt when the Lake swells as when it declines. It has abundance of Fish great and small, which make it resorted to by infinite Numbers of Water Fowl, feeding there, and resting in the many small Islands it contains. The *Arabs* call this Lake *Rahemah*.

Rahemah
Lake at
Mexat Aly.

We arriv'd at *Mexat Aly*, as was said before, on Saturday the 18th and an Hour after Night, and it being so late, all the *Caravan* went to unload at a *Khan*, or *Karavancero*, so they call a House built to entertain the *Caravans* and Passengers; being like the Cloisters of our Monasteries in Shape and Figure, with very little difference, divided into Chambers, each of them with a Door and Lock, and a Place to dress Meat, as also a common Privy. Some have a Well in the middle, others a Place for Cattle. Those abroad in the Country are not thus divided. Some are able to contain three or four hundred Men, and some are given out of Charity, being built for this purpose by wealthy *Mahometans*,

A Cara
van sera de-
scrib'd.

where only a small matter at Will is bestow'd on those who have the Charge of looking to them; others are hir'd, but at a very low rate. There are of these in *India*, where they call them *Chales*; but they are neither so well built nor so cleanly. In this *Khan* we took up our Lodging, because it was Night. The House was large, and tho' decay'd, appear'd to have been a curious and costly Structure. There we lay, no better accomodated than before, the Place being foul, stony, uneven, ill shelter'd, and unfit for Rest, especially for us who came so much Fatigu'd, that some of the Men fell sick and no small number of the Cattle dy'd. Our Supper consisted of Dates, sower Milk, and Water, being a Present sent my Captain, and no great Collation, for one that had scarce broke his Fast all the Day, because my private Stock of Biscuit was then just ended. There was no Remedy but Patience, which is one of the most necessary things a Man ought to make Provision of upon such Journeys. *James de Melo* and his Companion *Mustapha*, who came before, and had taken a good Lodging in another *Khan* went to find me out in the Morning, and after Saluting and Embracing, as if we had not seen one another in a long time, they desir'd me to go to their Quarters, which I would not do without positive Leave and Orders from my Captain, to avoid giving him I desir'd to please, any occasion to complain. They beg'd it of him, and when obtain'd I went along with them, and we continu'd together till our Departure.

Mexat
Aly De-
sirib'd.

Mexat Aly, or *Mam Aly*, which is all the same, and signifies *Alis Mosque*, or House of Prayer, is a Town founded almost a thousand Years ago, for it is near so much since he dy'd. He was Nephew to *Mahomet* and his Son in Law, commonly call'd *Mortz Aly*, of whom his Conquests and Valour the Followers of his Sect, who are mortal Enemies to the *Sunis*, professing that of the *Turks*, tell such Feats and Miracles, as are worthy to be laugh'd at, or rather lamented. Not to mention them, as foreign from our Purpose, and deliver'd by many, I will speak of the Town, the Inhabitants whereof say that *Aly* being basely murder'd by a Servant that had belong'd to him since he was a Child, at *Kufa*, a Town not far from this, now quite gone to Decay, the dead Body being wash'd and anointed after their manner, was, as he had order'd before his Death, made fast on a Camel, permitting him to go whither he would, but following to see where he made a Stand, and after many Turnings and Windings, he came to rest in that Desert, which is as solitary as may be. Those who follow'd came up, and made a Grave for the dead Body in the same Place, which in Process of Time, thro' the Affection and Concourse of his Devotes and Followers

Aly's Bur-
iall.

Followers, was so enrich'd with Offerings, Gifts, and Presents, that a stately *Mosque* and *Alcoran* or *Steeple* of curious Structure was erected to him, tho' now that Sect declining, the Number of the Offerings and Visitants is smaller, and the Building has lost much of its Beauty and Grace. The Ground being reputed Holy on account of that Body, there was so great a Resort to it, that by degrees it grew up into a Town, which when in its flourishing Condition, about 50 or 60 Years since, contain'd between 6 and 7000 Houses, most of them large and well built, as still appears by the Ruins. At present there are not above 500 inhabited, and most of those poor and ill furnish'd. Some of the Inhabitants told me the Town had utterly declin'd since the Death of *Xa Thamas* King of *Persia*, who had been a very great Friend to it. It was inclos'd with a Wall, which is now broken down in many Places; the *Mosque* and Houses all built with Brick. It has no Water but of Wells, and that is salt; so that those who will have fresh, are said to bring it from a Trench, *Sultan Selim* the Great *Turk* drew from the River *Euphrates*, to 3 Leagues Distance, with immense Labour and Charge: We could not drink of it when we came thither, because the Trench was foul and chok'd up, and they were cleansing it as they do every Year. Here is great Scarcity of Wood, and all Necessaries are brought from abroad, as Sheep, Fowl, Wheat, Barley, Fruit and Greens; but the common Food of the Inhabitants is Dates, sour Milk, and Cakes of Wheat and Barley. There is much Fish in the Lake, but they make little Use of it. Most of the People are white, but of a perverse Disposition. No *Christian* or *Jew* ever settles in this Town, because they are mortally hated, as are all *Mahometans* who profess not their Sect. They value themselves upon being strict Observers of it, inso-much as to look upon it as a Sin to talk or converse with the others, and are mighty nice, and perform many Ceremonies upon receiving any thing they have touch'd. There are still to be seen some Ruins of *Sucos*, which were Markets built with Brick, as is usual in most Towns in those Parts, with Windows to let in the Sun and Light, so artificial, that they sufficiently testify it was a Noble Place. In *Aly's Mosque* there are some Pieces of Value, and among the rest 3 large Gold Lamps, set with Precious Stones, presented by several Princes. The Country is subject to the *Turk*, to whom the Lord of it, who is an *Arabian* King pays Tribute; and here uses to be a Garrison of 30 *Turks*, at that time all absent, being call'd to *Bagdar*, by reason of the War with the *Persians*; and the Inhabitants being free from them,

them, were so masterless and unruly, that they committed all sorts of Violences and Outrages, without any Fear or Shame.

When the Company had rested 4 Days, and left some of the Inhabitants of this Place that came in the *Caravan*, we set out again on *Thursday* the 23th of the same Month, 3 Hours before Sun Rising, travelling Northwards thro' extraordinary plain but barren Fields, yet along a beaten Road, on which we met Travellers on Horseback and on Foot, and Gangs of Camels and Asses. Having travell'd about 7 Leagues, by half an Hour after 11, we rested in a *Khan* or *Karavancero*, which was old but spacious and well built, and near it in a curious Plain was a fine Well, and about 2 Musket Shot from it 15 Cottages or Tents of *Arabs*, with many Camels. Three Leagues short of this Place, and about half a League from the Road, we saw a great House with a high Tower, where is the Tomb and Body of the Prophet *Ezekiel*, call'd *Ezkel* by the *Jews* and *Moors*, and held in great Veneration both on account of his Life and Sanctity, and for the Miracles they say God works there for his Servant's Sake. In this *Khan* where we rested, by the *Arabs* call'd *Esegel*, *James de Melo* found himself ill of a Fever, which he had before some Symptoms of at *Aly*. He was oblig'd to travel on a Camel, as well for his Ease as because his Horse was not able to carry him; and he not being us'd to such Fatigues, as bred daintily, which generally they are in *India*, was very impatient. It pleas'd God, he mended upon twice bleeding and some Physick prescrib'd him. We went thence at 3 in the Afternoon, and travelling over a hard Sand and very plain Country to the Northward, 6 Leagues till Sun Set, took up near another *Karavancero*, by the *Arabs* call'd *Geneza*, in a curious tho' dry Plain, where was a large Well of clean and good Water. *Friday* the 24th we proceeded on our Journey hastily at 2 in the Morning, over a most barren Country, and at Break of Day discover'd the Town of *Mexat Ocem*, yet did not reach it till 9 in the Morning, travelling to the North West. This Journey was about 7 Leagues when entring the City, we took up our Lodging in a *Khan* there is, very well built, which is allow'd for Charity.

CHAP.

C H A P. V.

The Description of Mexat Ocem; our crossing the Country of Mesopotamia, and Rivers Tigris and Euphrates, and coming to Bagdat on the former of them.

Mexat Ocem, or Mam Ocem, that is, Ocem's Mosque, is a open Town of above 4000 Houses, some of them well contriv'd after the Country Fashion, but all of a mean Structure. It is inhabited by Native Arabs and Turks plac'd over the Lands belonging to it, none of whom were then in the Place, being all gone to Bagdat to the War; for which reason many *Agemis* or *Persians* residing there had also left it, not thinking themselves safe whilst the War continued between the *Turks* and *Persians*. All the Natives of *Mexat Ocem* are *Rafazis* or *Xyabis*, that is, of the same Sect with those of *Mexat Ali* abovemention'd, and consequently hate any other Religion, whether of *Mahometans*, *Christians*, or *Jews*, of which two last none live there, and such as only pass thro' are ill look'd upon. All the Markers are built with Brick, and good Structures. The great Concourfe of Trading People from all Parts, makes it abound in Provisions and Merchandize. Here is a Mosque, and an Alcoran or Tower dedicated to Ocem the Son of Ali, who is bury'd in this Place, and died in it for Thirst, it being then a Desert; for which reason all the *Mahometans*, and particularly those of this Sect, look upon it as a very meritorious Act to give Water for God's Sake, to such as ask it; and many go about the Streets with Skins full of it, and clean Brass Cups, giving all that are a dry to drink, without requiring any thing for it, yet refuse not what is freely offer'd them. The Mosque and Alcoran, considering the Place, are wonderful for Workmanship, Grandeur, and Cost; and tho' very near as ancient as the Father's, being as well as that, founded and increas'd by the Devotion of the *Xyais*, it still appears much more lightly and beautiful. The Materials are Lime, Brick, and curious painted Tiles like those we call *Dutch*, and some *Mosaic* Work. Provisions are here very plentiful and cheap, as Wheat, Barley, Rice, Greens, Fruit, and Flesh. The Air is more temperate and pleasant than in those Countries we have last spoken of. Here are some publick Wells of very good Water, pleasant Trees, several sorts of *European* Fruit. The Land is fertiliz'd by a Trench from the River *Euphrates*, which is 8 Leagues distant

Mexat O.
cem de-
scrib'd.

distant, and supplies it when swell'd with the Rain. There is Plenty of great and small Cattel, feeding on the Pasture about the Town, especially in certain Plains, which being flooded in the Winter, are full of Grass all the rest of the Year. At the end of the Town, towards the River *Euphrates*, are 2 great square Pools, which seem to have been formerly made for Recreation, by the Ruins of Lodgings and Galleries there are about them. They are very large, and now serve to receive the Water brought by the aforesaid Trench, which is generally us'd when they want other. This Town, and that of *Mexat Ali* are both subject to *Mir Nacer* an *Arabian* King, paying Vassalage to the *Turk*, who devours those Lands; and yet whilst I was there, the Horses, Furniture, Vests, and Arms of 34 *Turks*, a Troop of *Arabs* belonging to this same Town had murder'd and stripp'd, were publicly sold; for all things being in Disorder, by reason of the War between the *Turks* and *Persians*, and the *Turkish* Garrison, to whom those Lands were distributed, being absent, the Natives had nothing to stand in awe of. They generally make use of Camels, Horses, Asses, and Oxen, to carry Burthens. The People are white, of an indifferent good Aspect, not costly in their Expences, and most of the Men ride on Horseback. This Town, as well as that of *Mexat Ali*, is very scarce in Wood, instead whereof they burn much Cow's and Camel's Dung.

My Captain came to be marry'd in this Town, to a Woman of his own Family or Tribe, being of the best Quality there, and went directly to lodge at his Bride's House, which was new built, pleasant enough, and had much Conveniency for his Camels and Servants. *James de Melo*, his Comrade *Mustapha*, I, and many others of the Caravan, took up our Lodging in a *Khan* or *Karavancero*, whence my Captain carry'd me sometimes to his House, to dine with his Kindred and Friends, upon those Dainties they had at the Wedding, being coarse sweet Cakes of Bread, ill made, not over cleanly, nor well bak'd, some Rice, Flesh God knows how dress'd, in Pottage, Dates, and indifferent Fruit: All this on a round Skin spread upon the Ground; but the genteelst Part was, that every Man did eat with a Spoon; for it is frequent among the Country *Arabs* to have but one Spoon among 10 or 12, and every Man takes his Spoonful, waiting till it comes to his Turn again: The best of it is, that what they give is with a good Will and much Sincerity; for the *Arabs* outdo many other Nations in freely offering what they eat to any one that comes in or passes by, were there not other Abuses that spoil all.

Poor Diet
of the A-
rabs.

What

Whilst we were in this Town there came Custom House Officers from *Bagdat*, with Orders to oblige the Merchants to go thither with their Goods, which many did, much against their Will. However they set out upon *Wednesday* the 20th of *September*, only very few remaining behind, and we among them; because our Captain did not furnish us with Camels, for his were in such a Condition, that Five of them dy'd soon, and the rest were unfit to travel, and he being very covetous would not then hire others. After we had been there 8 Days uneasy enough, for several Reasons, and chiefly on Account of being lodg'd in a *Khan*, where was a Captain with 40 *Segmenes*, being Musketeers belonging to the *Turk*, tho' not *Turks*, who we dreaded might commit any Insolency, as being a loose, rude, boisterous People, without any Conscience, Honour, or Discipline. When these were ready to depart, being only quarter'd there in their way, a *Mahometan* came to me, and I know not why to me, more than any other of us there, and in the *Persian* Tongue said, we must be watchful and stand upon our Guard, for the *Segmenes* design'd when they went away, to take the Horses belonging to my Companions, or at least one of them. I return'd many Thanks and gave Notice to my Comrades, removing them to our Captains House, where they were safe, and we continu'd upon the Watch in the *Khan*, till those Men were gone. Those few of us that remain'd of the *Caravan* so earnestly entreated our Captain, that yielding to us, he prepar'd to bear us Company, attended by a Brother in Law of his own, a Man of Note and much honour'd with some of his Friends,

Segmenes
what they
are.

Being all met and furnish'd, we set out from *Mexat Ocem* for *Bagdat*, on *Saturday* the 2d. of *October*, at 9 in the Morning, in much Dread of Robbers, that Road being as much Frequented by them as it is by Travellers. A great Part of our Day's Journey was along that Trench I have spoken of, whose Water spread abroad, fertilizes all those Lands, which are very considerable. This Canal is about three Fathom and a half over, and one and half in Depth, along the Bottom whereof, being then dry, there were some Wells of good Water, and near them in the Sides of the same Channel were dug watering Places for Cattel. There lay also some Boats like those they call *Danecas*, at *Bazora*, all daub'd with *Quir*, which is a Bitumen flowing Liquid, from two Springs at *Hyt*, a Town on the Bank of the *Euphrates*, and afterwards growing very hard. In those Boats they run along the Canal when it has Water. This Day's Journey was through plain good Land, most Sow'd, especially with Cotton, whereof they have much Plenty thereabouts. Having travell'd about 8 Leagues, at five in

Quir Bi-
tumen.

the Afternoon we came to a *Khan*, that is strong, spacious and cleanly, a Majestick Structure very capacious, and seated on the Bank of the River *Euphrates*, which runs there very smooth, and at that time being the End of the Summer, carries little Water. We did not cross that Day because it was late, but lay at Night on the Shore, keeping strict Watch for Fear of Robbers, whereof there is no Scarcity.

Euphrates
River.

Mezayehb

Towns on
the Euphrates.

Sunday the 3d of *October*, as soon as the Sun was up, we cross'd the River in two Ferry Boats there are, paying a *Maidin* a Head or Pack, this being a Silver Coin worth 11 Maravedies, that is, about three Halfpence. Notwithstanding all the Hast we made, the Company and Baggage was not all over till ten of the Clock. This River, which is full of Windings, runs here North and South, so that we cross'd to the Eastward; the Water was very muddy, and the Ferry Men assur'd me that it was above 30 Fathom deep in that Place, stor'd with Plenty of good Fish. The *Arabs* and *Persians* call it *Forat*, and the *Hebrews*, *Parat*; the Breadth of it was there at that time about 200 Paces, but much more in the rainy Season, for it rises from four to six Cubits and upwards, and its Water reckoned most pure, is made use of to fertilize many plow'd Fields and Orchards. Being in *Mesopotamia*, which is just over the River, and going up a Hill, we came to another *Khan*, there is on that Side, above the River, not so strong, spacious and well built, as that on the other Side opposite to it, yet convenient enough; seated on the Ruins of an ancient Town, call'd *Mezayehb*, whereof nothing now remains but the Name and some old Walls; but many Orchards abounding in Greens, Palm Trees and some *European* Fruits, all good and plentiful, fed by the Water drawn up from the River, running very low under those Lands. This is done with an Engine consisting of Skins, which is drove by Oxen, an Invention of little Charge, easy and advantagious; tho' those are better which being drove by the Stream of the River, throw up the Water as high and in as great Quantities as they please, as are us'd all along the Bank. Going up the River against the Stream, there are many Towns, the most Noted of them *Gedida* and *Hyr*, this last famous for the *Quir*, being the Bitumen above mention'd, which the *Portugueses* in *India* call *Quile*, and use it to stanch the Cisterns of Water they have in their Ships instead of Caak. Next follow *Hadyta*, *Halux*, *Jubia*, full of beautiful Women, *Mamura*, *Ana*, and many others as far as *Byra*, near *Aleppo*. Down the River a little above two Hours Travel, is *Hela* an ancient Town, in the way the Children of *Israel* pass'd through going to *Babylon*, about which the Fields being in *Mesopotamia*, near the *Euphrates*, are all cross'd by Rivulets,

vulets, on which many Fruit Trees grow, and these were the Rivers the Royal Psalmist speaks of in his Psalm.

Having rested at *Arozayebb*, till two in the Afternoon, we went up the Country of *Mesopotamia*, variously seated, but without any Mountain or notable Hill, our Course to the Northward, leaving the Place where the ancient *Babylon* stood, two Leagues from us, on the left Hand, and that is the most unfrequented Part of the Country, according to what was Prophecy'd of it. Travelling on a great Pace, at five in the Afternoon we pass'd by a New *Khan*, handsome and strong, seated in a Place most convenient for Robbers, because many little Hills lying against one another, it is well contriv'd for Ambushes and Surprizes. This *Khan* was built out of Charity, at the Cost of a Turkish Lady, Wife to an Officer of the Grand Signior's Revenue at *Bagdat*. We made no Stay, but going on with much Speed, came two Hours after Night to another *Khan*, call'd *Berenus*, that is, the half way House, because it is so between the two Rivers, a noble Structure, strong and capacious. In it were 10 or 12 Turkish Troopers, who generally reside there to assist Travellers upon any Occasion. Opposite to this is another ancient *Khan*, inhabited by a few Families of poor People, who till some Grounds thereabouts and in it are certain Wells, the Water whereof is not very good, but it serves them, the Caravans and Passengers, there being no other without. A Musket Shot from this is another old *Khan* or *Karancero*, gone to Ruin. It is about 8 Leagues from the River *Euphrates* to this Place. Monday the 4th of October, we set forwards very hastily, at two in the Morning, to the Northward over Variety of Lands, some barren, others abounding in Pasture, which feeds numerous Flocks of great and small Cattel, Camels, Horses and other tame and serviceable Creatures; which drink of the Water of several Wells, especially of two we saw well in Repair, Brick'd about, with each a Stone Trough or Cistern, which were the first Stones I saw in all the Way from *Mexat Aly* hither, and to *Bagdat*. When the Sun was up we discover'd that Part of *Bagdat*, which is in *Mesopotamia*, and the first thing of it the *Alcorans*, because they being very high, and the Country not uneven, they appear four Leagues off. Having gone two of the four we found all the Way on both Sides, up to the Town Abundance of burnt Bricks, square and decay'd with Age, some above Ground and others in Caves under it. This I take Notice of on Account of what I shall say hereafter of *Bagdat*.

Karancero.

Having often Occasion to speak of these *Alcorans*, I will here describe what they are, for the Information of such as know it not. As in our Churches we usually have Belfries, so the *Mahometans* are.

Alcorans
what they

build these to their *Mosques*, which tho' not all exactly alike, are generally shap'd like the Mast of a Ship, being upright round and equal to the Round Top, and that is a Balcony, or Walk round it, from whence upward, like the Topmast it is shorter and slenderer. Within it are winding Stairs to go up to that Balcony, where the *Mulas* being Men appointed for that particular Service, at the usual Hours, that is, thrice a Day, and twice in the Night cry out as loud as ever they are able, uttering these Words. *The great God, who has no equal, is only one, and I believe, and testify it and that Mahomet is his Messenger.* To this which is the essential Part, never to be omitted, they add other Expressions, stirring up the People to praise God; and in regard that the Book of *Mahomet's* Sect is call'd *Koran*, or *Alcoran*, the same Name has been given to the Place appointed for proclaiming of it. Some of them in those Parts are very majestick and costly.

I enter'd this Part of *Bagdat*, which is in *Mesopotamia*, at one in the Afternoon, but was before met by a *German* Youth I had known in *India* some Years, who had been inform'd that the *Caravan* was coming and I with it. He was here call'd *James Fernandez*, born at *Hamburgh*, where his right Name was *Joachim Ozemkroch*, being come thither 7 Days before from *Bazora*, it being three Months since he left that Place by Boat. One *Jasar* a Renegado, who had gone before the *Caravan* from *Ocem*, having told him I was coming, he sent me a Letter thither which mis'd of me, to advise me to be cautious what Way I took, the Renegado thinking I had design'd for shortning of the Journey, to take another not so much us'd and more dangerous, and therefore he gave me Notice of the many Difficulties and Hazards, there were then on the Road, by Reason of the War at *Aleppo*. We met at the Entrance into the Town, and he conducted me to his House, where, and on the Way to *Aleppo*, on which we were Comrades, he oblig'd me with many Favours. This shows how advantageous it is to do good, when in our Power; for now after so long a time this Young Man requited the little Service I had before done him. I cross'd the River with him, and at three of the Clock in the Afternoon enter'd the City on the other Side, having travell'd 10 Leagues that Day.

C H A P. VI.

The Description of Bagdat.

B *Agadad* [as call'd by the Inhabitants, and by us *Bagdat*] a City of much Note, is seated on the River *Tigris*, which the Natives name *Digilah*, or *Diguytah*, as *Sevil* and *Triana* are on the *Gnadalquivir*. The River runs thro' it North and South, very little inclining either Way, and when lowest, as at the time when I went thither, is about 230 Paces over. It has a Bridge of 28 Boats, with Timbers laid athwart; and there is as much Distance between every 2 Boats as the Breadth of one of them, being 4 Paces, and the Ends of it are made fast on both Sides to the Walls and Houses, with large Iron Chains. Every Night it parts in the Middle, one half remaining on each Side, and the same is done at any time, when either the Wind or Water are too boisterous, when there are Ferry Boats to cross it, and as soon as calm, the Parts are joyn'd again. It is also divided every Friday, whilst the *Bassa* and People are in the *Mosque*, at their *Salah*, or *Prayer*, and when they come out united again. In Winter the River rises 6 Cubits, or more, and sometimes enters the City, standing on a Bank rais'd little above it. The Water of it seem'd to me much more clear, pure, thin, and pleasant, than that of the *Euphrates*, and it breeds Abundance of good Fish, which the *Mahometans* make their Advantage of. A *Maydin*, that is, the Value of 11 *Maravedies*, or about three Half Pence, is paid Toll for every Load of Goods, imported, or exported. Those who come from *Mesopotomia*, as we did, to enter *Bagdat*, first pass over thro' the Part that lies Westward of the River, crossing a broad and deep dry Ditch, of the Earth taken from which is made a high Trench or Bulwark, serving instead of a Wall, to secure the Town from any Attack of the *Arabs*, who only can attempt it on that Side. There are 2 standing Bridges over it, almost at the Ends. This Ditch was made in the Year 1601, by *Acen Bassa Wazir*, who in the same Place also erected a Market, a *Khan*, and a House of *Kaah*, that is, a *Coffee-House*, most beautiful Structures, still call'd by his Name. I do not remember to have seen any Stone in all the Structures of that City, except the Gates of this *Khan*, and those of a new *Mosque*, which stands on the Left Hand as you come off the Bridge into the City. These Stones are white and very hard, but no Marble: and are brought from

Bagdat
Cin.Bridge of
Boats.Tigris
River.No Stone
at Bagdat.

from *Mosul*, lying up the River, and suppos'd by some to be *Niveh*.

Suburb next Mesopotamia This Part of *Bagdat* contains about 3000 Houses inhabited, with the *Succos*, or *Markets*, *Caroanceros*, publick Baths, and all sorts of Handicrafts us'd among the *Mahometans*, and is as plentifully supply'd with all Necessaries as the City, and even more of some Sorts, because most of the Provisions come from that Side.

Coffee-House.

Among the other publick Structures is the House of *Kaoab* or *Coffee House* abovemention'd. The *Kaoab*, which we call *Coffee*, is a Berry as big as a small Bean, brought out of *Arabia*, which they grind, boil, and sell in publick Houses, built for that purpose, where all sorts of Men of every Degree meet to drink, and sitting in Order, have this Liquor brought them in *China* Dishes that hold 4 or 5 Ounces, very hot, and every Man taking his Dish, blows and sips. It is black, and almost insipid; and tho' they assign it several good Qualities, it has none certainly known, and only Custom prevails with them to meet there to talk and divert themselves. The more to attract the People they keep beautiful *Boys*, richly clad, who wait and take Money, besides Musick and other Diversions which invite the Company, the greatest Resort being at Night in the Summer, and by Day in the Winter. This House is on the Bank of the River, and has several Windows, and two Galleries over it, which make it a very pleasant Place. There are some others like this in the City, and many throughout *Turky* and *Persia*. On this Side without the Ditch and Trench, are the Ruins of ancient Structures, which sufficiently demonstrate the former Magnificence of that Town. Here stood first the great *Bagdad*, but not *Babylon*, as I shall soon shew.

Fort for the Bassa's Residence.

Proceeding hence into the City, over the Bridge of 28 Boats, we enter it at a great Gate, besides which there are 3 other Posterns to the River. It is a large Mile in Length along the River, and on the North Point whence the Stream comes, stands a Fort where the *Bassa* lives, being more large than strong; an oblong Square, about 1500 common Paces in Compass, inclos'd with a Ditch 8 Cubits deep, and 12 in Breadth. The Walls and Bastions are of Brick, with some Embrasures at which there are Pieces of Canon. Within it resides the *Bassa*, with the principal People belonging to him, being between 1500 and 2000 paid and maintain'd by him. To this Fort, the Gate whereof looks to the Southward, joins the City Wall, with a Gate leading towards *Persia*, without which all the Country is extraordinary plain and good Land, till'd and sow'd, free from any Mountains or Hills to terminate the Sight; and therefore is some Years overflow'd in Winter, so that they go over it in Boats, and when this happens,

pens, they lay a Bridge from a Loophole of a Bastion there is in the Middle of the Wall, for the Service of the publick. The Wall is a League and a half in Compass, the other End reaching to the River, after making a half Circle, but with several Saliant Angles in it for the better Defence. There are 2 other Gates to the Landward; one in the Middle, and another at the other End. About it runs a deep Ditch, and the Wall is of Brick, with Battlements, Saliant Angles, and several Bastions, among which are 4 great ones, strong and well built, to bear the Weight and Shock of the Artillery planted on them, which is numerous, heavy, good, and all of Bräs.

The *Bassa* here has the Supreme Authority in Civil and Military Affairs; but the Strangers have a Protector appointed by the *Grand Signör*, who stands up for them and the Merchants in Opposition to him and all other Officers, when they offer them any Wrong, undertaking their Defence with much Integrity, as happen'd whilst I was there, in an Affair of much Moment, by which I understood how far this Protection extended; for he went so far as to put the Great *Turk's* Officers into Irons, and oblig'd the *Bassa* to desist from what he had intended.

The Forces appointed for the Defence of this City and the Country depending on it, are generally 14000 Men, Horse and Foot, *Turks* and the other Nations they employ, of which Number between 4 and 5000 reside in the City, and among them 1500 *Fanisaries*. The rest are divided into several Governments and Posts, and these are besides, what we said before, belong'd peculiarly to the *Bassa*, and were with him in the Castle.

There are Ruins in *Bagdat* of sumptuous Buildings, since the time the *Persians* were possess'd of it, such as the *Mosque*, they call the *Calefaka's*, or of the *Calif*, and others on the River; the *Madrasa*, which was an Hospital, the Vaults in the Markets, and some old *Alcorans*, which decay with Age. Besides these Remains of what was, there is no new Structure worth taking notice of, excepting 2 *Mosques*, one of them on the Left Hand, entring the City at the great Gate, built by a *Bassa* for his particular Devotion, in Honour of a peculiar sort of Saint of his own. This is a costly Work, as may be judg'd by the Outside; for it is not allow'd to any that are not *Mahometans* to enter their *Mosques*, especially those most resorted to, without imminent Danger of Death, or being oblig'd to renounce their Religion; but this is not executed with the same Rigour in all Parts. The other *Mosque* standing at the End of the City, near the Palm-Trees there are between it, and the Wall is very remarkable, as well for its Fabrick, as on account of an Aqueduct that conveys the Water to it.

The Wall.

Protector
of Strangers.

Forces.

Ruins
and Structures.

2000 Hou- it from the River; a very costly Work, and no less useful to the
fes. People. Notwithstanding one third Part of the Space within the
Walls lies waste, or full of Palm-Trees, there are in Bagdat a-
bove 2000 Houses, most of them large and spacious, but of a mean
Structure, few well contriv'd, all flat roofed, most without any
Windows to the Street, and the Doors very small. They are all of old
Brick, taken from the Ruins of Ancient Buildings, and very many
live only upon digging, and carrying it about to sell. For this
Reason 4 or 5 Miles about the Town on the Side of Mesopotamia,
the Country is full of Holes, some of them very deep, the Brick
being continually taken out from the Ruins of the ancient Edifices,
w hich sufficiently testifies the Grandeur of this Place in former times.

Inhabit-
sants.

Most of the Inhabitants are civiliz'd *Arabs*, the rest *Turks*,
Curdes, and *Agemis*, or *Persians*, which last were not so nume-
rous at this time, because of the War, and yet there were ma-
ny. There are about 2 or 300 Houses of *Jews*, 12 or 15 where-
of they affirm to have been ever since the first Captivity. Some
of them are wealthy, but the greater Part extremely poor; they
live in a separate Quarter, with full Freedom of their *Kanis* or
Synagogue. There were 10 Houses of *Armenian Christians*, and
80 of the *Nestorians*. The Natives of Bagdat are generally white,
handsome, of a good Disposition and Affable. The Men for
the most part go on Horseback, being clean and costly in their
Apparel, as are the Women, many of them beautiful, and gene-
rally they have good Eyes. They all go cover'd in the Streets,
with Cloths like Veils, which they call *Chandales*, but not black,
and over their Faces a fine black or sanguine Colour Gauze,
so that they see all without being seen, tho' they are willing
enough, and therefore purposely uncover themselves sometimes.

Baths-

There are many very curious Baths, some only for Men, and
others for Women, all being much addicted to the Use of them.
In the midst of the City towards the River, there are 7 or 8
Streets of Shops of all Goods, and Handicrafts us'd among the
Mahometans; besides as many *Khans* where Merchants reside,
and they are much frequented. They are all shut up every Night
with great Iron Chains, and at the End of them is a Pass, which
they call *Pange Aly*, that is, the *Hand*, or *Fingers* of *Ali*, because,
as they give out, *Ali's* Hand appear'd there on the Wall; and
left its Impression; wherefore they have there a small Oratory,
before which they light many Candles at Night. In this Place
generally sits a *Bolugo Bassi*, that is, a *Head*, or *Chief* of *Muske-*
ters, from *Bolugo*, a *Musketier*, and *Bax*, the *Head*, whence al-
so I suppose is deriv'd the Word *Baxa*, or as we speak it *Bassa*,
as it were a *Head* or *Chief* in Government; so *Cazel Bax*, *Red*
Head,

Ridiculous
Devotion.

Head; and *Cara Bax*, *Black Head*, the Names of Tribes and Martial Men among the *Turks* and *Persians*. This *Bolugo Bassi* sits there to attend all those *Succos*, or *Markets*; and secure them, that neither Buyers nor Sellers may be wrong'd, or any Violence committed; and he makes up all Differences or Disputes happening between Parties verbally, either by fair Means, or Severity, according to the Nature of the thing. And in case he cannot wholly reconcile, he turns them over to the *Cadi*, who is the Civil Judge, for him to adjust the Difficulty. This I think, is an excellent Method, and so effectual, that tho' there were so many Soldiers, and they so insolent, as in time of War, I do not remember during my Stay there, which was two Months, to have seen or heard of any Violence committed in those Streets.

Bolugo
Bassi.

Bagdat enjoys a most serene, temperate, and wholesome Air, saying that being very sharp, those who are not careful of themselves, are apt to take Cold. The Summer and Winter are as in *Europe*, with only this Difference, that the Heat is excessive, and the Cold moderate. They commonly make use of Camels, Horses, Mules, Asses, and Oxen, to carry Burthens, there being great Numbers of them all. The Country about yields much Cotton and Silk, which is all wrought and us'd in the City, where there are above 4000 Looms for Woollen, Linnen, Cotton, and Silk, and none of them ever idle. All the People of *Bagdat* generally speak three Languages, being *Turkish*, *Arabick*, and *Agemi*, or *Persian*, but the commonest is the *Turkish*. In time of Peace, and even in War, Merchants resort thither with Abundance of Commodities from *Persia* and *India*, by the Way of *Bazara*, up the River, or thro' the Deserts, on both Sides of it, and so from *Haramis*, *Aleppo*, *Damascus*, *Tripoly*, and several other Parts; for clearing of whom there are 3 Custom Houses, one for those of *Syria*, which they do in their Passage, on the other Side of the River, and 2 within the City for all the rest. Here is a Mint, where they coin Gold, Silver, and Copper; and two Houses to exercise Shooting with the Bow and Firelock. Tho' so distant from the Sea, it abounds in Salt, brought from the Lake I spoke of at *Mexat Ali*. Among other things I saw and observ'd in this City, one was a great Street full of Gold and Silver-Smiths, all of them *Mahometans*, who make much curious and costly Work, and not one among them of any other Sect or Religion. This I took Notice of, wondering much at *Baterus*, who in the Account he gives of the Manners of the Nations in *Africa*, speaking of the *Jews*, says, they obtain'd Admittance there by means of this Art, the *Mahometans* being forbid the Use of it. I know not whence he took it, since we see the contrary in several Places.

Air, and

labeled
ed hand
weaving.

Trade.

Error of
Boterus.

Without that Part of *Bagdar*, which is in *Mesopotamia*, in a little House is a Tomb, held in great Veneration, both by *Mahometans* and *Jews*, for there they say lies the Body of a *Jewish* High Priest. The Monument is like a great Chest of Lime and Stone, and at the Head of it is a Copper Plate, with some *Arabick* Characters in Relief, which import *Yeshuah Koengadab*, signifying *Joshua the High Priest*. They say he was a Holy Man, and all honour him as such, affirming that God has wrought Miracles for his Sake.

Difference
between
Bagdat
and Baby-
lon.

All those who write of it, generally confound this City of *Bagdar* with that of *Babylon*, which in my Opinion is occasion'd by the Nearness of the Place, where the other formerly stood, being but one good Days Journey off. Now to shew there is much Difference between them, it is enough to declare that *Babylon* stood upon the River *Euphrates*, and *Bagdat* is on the *Tigris*; however for the farther Satisfaction of the Reader, I will deliver what there is in the *Mahometan* Histories and Records, concerning its Original and Foundation.

Bagdat
founded by
Abujasar,
An. 763.

In the Year of the *Hegira* 145 according to the *Mahometan* Reckoning, which was of *Christ* 763, one *Abujasar* then *Calif*, came from *Kufa*, a City in *Arabia*, then the Court and Residence of the *Califs*, to this Part of the Country; and liking the Situation, with some other Considerations, he founded this City on the Western Bank of the River *Tigris*, where now stands that Part of it abovemention'd, which is in *Mesopotamia*; and such was its Greatness, that as has been observ'd, there are still Remains of its Magnificent Structures for 5 Miles about. On the East Side, where now the City is, being in *Chaldestan*, there was no Town of Note, but only some Farms and Gardens, whence it seems to have had its Name; for *Bagadad* in the *Persian* Tongue, signifies a Place of Orchards, from *Baga*, an Orchard. In the Height of its Prosperity there happen'd so many Inundations of the *Tigris*, that it declin'd by degrees, and went to Ruin, till *Almoftasir Billah*, the Son of *Almoctady Billah*, succeeding in the *Califfship*, An. 487 of the *Hegira*, which was of *CHRIST* 1095, 342 Years after it was founded in that Place, he judging the East Side a better Situation, as it really is, remov'd the City thither, as it now stands. This also was once much greater, and at this time, between the Houses and the Wall, there are large Hills, tho' the Land is very level, these being made of the Ruins, and many mighty Structures converted into them.

Old Baby-
lon.

This is the present *Bagadad*, or *Bagdar*, as we corruptly call it, and such was its Foundation; for of *Babylon*, so call'd from its being seated in the Place call'd *Babel*, as is still affirm'd among those

those People, and seated where I mention'd before, nothing has remain'd for many Ages but the Name; and tho' some Footsteps of it may be seen, they are inconsiderable. This may suffice as to the Original of *Bagdad*, and to conclude, I must say that I do not remember I have ever seen such dirty Streets any where, as those of this City, and *Bazora*; for being loose Earth, and not pay'd, every Shower of Rain fills them with Mud.

The *Bassa* had lately been Governour of *Bazora*, whence he departed by Way of the Desert, 3 Days before we came to that Place. His Name was *Issuf*, or *Juceph Paxa* an Eunuch, by Nation a *Xerquez*, whose Place is worth yearly 200000 *Chequines*, being about 250000 Ducats, whereof he spends at most between 30 and 40000. It is worth so much in time of Peace; for in time of War he makes what he pleases. When we were upon our Departure, there came to him 15 *Cappis* from *Constantinople*, being the *Grand Signior's* Porters, and brought him the Title of *Wazir*, or *Vizier*, as we call it, with a Patent to continue his Government for 7 Years, as also a Vest of Brocade, a Sword, and a Gold Chain for his Horse's Bridle, which are the Gifts the Great Turk uses to send to those he raises to such Dignity. Among the *Bassaships*, or Governments in the Gift of the *Grand Signior*, the first is that of *Mecere* or *Grand Cairo* in *Egypt*, the second this of *Bagdat*, and the 3d that of *Tabriz*. When we came to the City, it was under great Apprehensions of the *Persians*, who were said to march towards it, as had been done not long before by *Ala Verdi*, *Wazir*, or *Vizier*, and Captain General to *Xa Habas*, King of *Persia*, who took about 300 Soldiers in a small Engagement, in Sight of the Walls, and the next Night departed with such Precipitation, that he left Part of his Baggage behind, yet the Cause of his Flight was not known. The *Persians* afterwards made several other Inroads into *Curdistan*, a Country very near *Bagdat*, whose Capital is *Suster*, said to be *Sus* or *Susa*, where *Ahasuerus* kept his Court, and the Passage between *Esther* and *Haman* happen'd. Those Lands are divided from the Territory of *Bagdat* by the River *Dialah*, which running to the Southward about a Days Journey from *Bagdat*, falls into the *Tygris* 5 or 6 Leagues below it.

Here we waited an Opportunity to set forwards, because no Body durst travel till there was News from *Aleppo*, which had been 3 Months besieg'd, because the *Bassa* that was in it, would not deliver it up to the Besieger, tho' he brought positive Orders from the *Grand Signior*, there being some private Quarrel between them. During the Siege the Inhabitants endur'd much Famine and other Hardships, as I was afterwards told there. Not

Siege of
Aleppo.

only we but all *Bagdat* was very impatient, having had no Account how Affairs went in two Months, when it pleas'd God, that on the 26th of *November* early in the Morning, three Expresses came together to the House of *James Fernandez*, the *German* where I was, who brought Letters importing, that the Country was restor'd to Peace. It is easy to Judge how much we rejoic'd, and immediatly prepar'd for our Journey, ordering the Camels we had already half hir'd, to be brought from *Ocem*, for so far they went to fetch them.

C H A P. VII.

Our Departure from *Bagdat*, we cross *Mesopotamia* again and come to *Anna*, on the River *Euphrates*.

HAVING order'd our Affairs and the Camels being come, we went over the River from *Bagdat*, to the other Side in *Mesopotamia*, on Sunday the 12th of *December* 1604, at five in the Afternoon, and lay that Night in the Field, between the Trench and the Houses. Monday the 13th at nine in the Morning we set forward with 130 Camels, and 75 Asses, and having gone a League and a Half, halted to pay the Duties there receiv'd for *Mir Nacer*, an *Arabian* King of the Hord, or Tribe of *Eben Emana*, being the same that is Lord of *Mexat Aly* and *Mexat Ocer*. This was done with much Trouble and Vexation. The Place is call'd *Bax Dulab*, that is, the first watering Wells, or the Head of them, because there were some of foul stinking Water to supply the Orchards. Before my Departure from *Bagdat*, I had advis'd with such as I thought could direct me, about what Beast I should chose to ride that Journey, and tho' they were of several Opinions, yet the most agreed, that in Regard the Winter was then coming on, and to save all Trouble, the best way was to go in a Cradle. I thought the Advice good, and accordingly follow'd it, as did *James Fernandez* and *James de Melo*. A Cradle is what the Name implies, being about four Spans and a half in Length, and two and a half in Breadth, cover'd with an Arch, and so lin'd that a Man may be in it defended against the Cold and Rain. It is laid on as half a Camels Load, that is, one on each Side of him, as *James Fernandez*

Bax Dulab

Travelling
Cradles.

nandez and I went, or else some other thing to ballance, as *James de Melo* had a Box, or Chest. These Cradles frequently have a private Place in the Seat, which commonly serves to hide some things of Value. In these a Man travels warmer and quieter, without any Care of a Horse, or his Meat, both which are always expos'd to every fancy of the *Arabs*, who perhaps borrow your Horse, and return him, if they please, and if so it is when they have run him out of Wind, which they do without any Respect of Persons, whensoever they please, and I have seen it done to *Turks*, for whom they have no Manner of Regard, if they meet them abroad alone. Besides it is usual with them to take away your Horses Barley, for their own, if they want, which is as good as killing him, because there is none to be had on the Road at any Rate. I will not speak of the Hazard of a Horse's falling lame, as happen'd to *James de Melo*. All this is sav'd by going in a Cradle, for if one Camel tires, or is lam'd, they give you another, the Owners always taking some spare ones, to carry the Burdens by Turns, or to supply the Defect of any one that dies, or is disabled; and it is the Custom, when any Merchant hires Camels, to allow him to every ten that carry Burdens, one gratis, for his own Equipage. We therefore considering the Season, and to save Trouble, made Choice of Cradles, and went in them to *Aleppo*.

Tuesday the 14th, at Sun rising we departed the watering Wells, and travell'd Westward over good plain Lands, with only some small risings. Having gone about three Leagues, we came to the Ruins of a great City, whereof there now remains standing a high *Alcoran*, and two Pieces of a thick and strong Wall, of Brick and Stone, which Place the *Arabs* call *Karkuf*. Next we enter'd upon excellent Lands, but desert and untill'd, excepting some small Part a few *Arabs* sow for their Maintainance, which answers plentifully. In this way we saw many Flocks of Sheep, Abundance of Wild Swine and *Gazelles*, being like Roes, and these were pursu'd by Companies of *Bedunya Arabs* hunting them. We went on without halting, till four in the Afternoon, when we stay'd in a Field the *Arabs* call *Aflayah*, so the whole Territory is Nam'd, from a Town of the same Denomination. All along this Way, being about seven Leagues there are Trenches gone to decay, which formerly brought Water from the River to refresh those Lands, and the *Euphrates* and these overflowing drowned them all. *Wednesday* the 15th, we mov'd before Sun rising to the North West, over mighty Plains, where we saw some *Gazelles* and Swine. Having pass'd half our Days Journey, we went a considerable way along a dry Channel, lying on the

Karkuf
Ruins.

right

right of us, which when it Rains carries very much Water, and what had already fallen had made some Puddles in it, much resorted to by Herons, and other Birds. I was assur'd, that in the Rainy Season, they went on it in small Boats as far as *Bagdat*. Having travell'd six Leagues we came against a Ridge, lying on our Left, about three Leagues distant, on which there appear'd two high *Monaras*, or *Alcorans*; and at the Foot of it, on the farther Side next the Bank of *Enfrates*, is a Town of *Arabs*, who are great Robbers. At four of the Clock, after travelling seven Leagues, we pitch'd in the Brake of a Channel, a Place pleasant enough, by the *Arabs* call'd *Aohenhat*, that is, bring Eyes, or Springs, there having been some in certain Wells, which were then dry, and oblig'd us to go far to fetch some bad enough, from other Wells Westward of us.

Aohenhat

Thursday the 16th, we set out an hour before Day to the North West, through a very plain Country, but the Land various, and travell'd seven Leagues by four in the Afternoon, when we settl'd in a Place that had no Water, nor any particular Name, but from the Neighbourhood of another so call'd, goes under the Denomination of *Om errus*. All the Water we found by the way was thick, white, filthy and ill scented, and had a loathsome Taste, and were the Weather hot it had been worse, for then we should find neither good nor bad. *Friday* the 17th, we march'd a little before Sun rising, still to the North West, over extraordinary plain and good Lands, and having gone two Leagues, saw about the Distance of three from us on the Left, a *Mosque*, with a high *Alcoran*, which the *Arabs* call *Mexat Sandabiah*. About five Leagues farther we came to the Side of a dry Channel, with some Wells, whose Water was like those before, whereof the Camels and Asses drank, and we took some with us to serve farther on. This Place the *Arabs* call *Ogolet Xequé Mahamed*, that is, the Wells of the Top of *Xequé Mahomed's* Leg, those People naming the Distance between the Foot and the Knee *Ogolet*, perhaps some one of that Name dug them. We had travell'd about eight Leagues, when a great Rain oblig'd us to encamp, at four in the Afternoon, in a Place destitute of Water, call'd by the *Arabs* *Ogolet el Kelb*, that is, the Wells of the Dog's Leg, from some there are above a League distant. It is wonderful to see how plain and good those Lands are, and no less Pity that they should lye desert and wast.

Mexat
Sandabiah.Ogolet
Xequé
Mahamed.Manzel
what it is,

Saturday the 18th, we mov'd after Sun rising, very wet with the great Rain in the Night, our way to North West, through a plain good Country, leaving the three Wells of dirty stinking Water, which I said gave Name to the last *Manzel*, on the right hand,

hand, not far from the Road. The *Arabs* call the Place, where the Caravan lyes *Mansel*, and is the same as the *Latin Mansio*. Next we came upon uneven Ground, Brakes and stony barren Hills, along which we travell'd a considerable Space, till we came to a great dry Channel, all of it, and the Ground about of a white, scaly, brittle Stone, shining like Borrace. We pitch'd upon the Bank at three in the Afternoon, because there was a Well of Black, thick, foul and very stinking Water. The Days Journey was above six Leagues, and this *Mansel*, or Station the *Arabs* call *Gomegme*. This Night such a heavy Rain fell, that we and our Goods were well soak'd, notwithstanding our Tents. *Sunday* the 19th, we began our Journey when it was Day, keeping still to the North West, over an uneven, craggy and stony Country, like the last, sometimes lighting upon spacious Plains, some of them clean and good Land, but most foul and full of Flints. Having gone about eight Leagues by four in the Afternoon, we stay'd in a pleasant, tho' dry Vale, by the *Arabs* call'd *Abu regemo*, that is, the Father of him that was ston'd, from a Heap of Stones gather'd in it by Hand. The Water here was poysonous.

Gomeg-
me.Abu re-
gemo.

Monday the 20th, before Sun rising, we advanc'd to the North West, through various Sorts of Lands, some good, some Stony, and went about eight Leagues, by four in the Afternoon, when we halted by a dry and uneven Channel, by the *Arabs* call'd *Seylat*, leaving about half a League behind us a Well of Water that was bad enough, yet tolerable in Respect of what we had pass'd. Here about the first Part of the Night six *Arabs* fell in among us, and we being surpriz'd, they put all the Caravan into Confusion. We ran to Arms, and two of them being taken, upon Examination appear'd to be Shepherds, who having left their Cattle to others, were going that way to a Village, with some Camels, and eight or ten Sheep, some of which we bought, and kept strict Watch the rest of the Night. Our Company was now divided, some being gone to *Hyt*, others to *Hadyt*, and others to *Juba*, Towns lying along the Bank of the River *Euphrates*. *Tuesday* the 21th, we got up with the Day, and proceeded North West about two Leagues over uneven stony Land, till we came to a Brake under which lyes a deep Channel full of Water in rainy Weather, but then dry. Passing this Place we went on through spacious Plains of good Land, with some mixture of Hills and Roughness, and being over these Flats, a great Part whereof was till'd and sow'd, came to the Bank of the *Euphrates*, where we rested at four in the Afternoon, over against an Island there is in the middle of the River, with a

Seylat.

Farm

Zawyhe
and Naze-
ria.

Farm, about 30 Palm-Trees, some watering Wells, and sow'd Grounds, call'd by the *Arabs*, *Zawyhe*; but the Place we were in, and all the Territory about it, they name *Nazaria*. Here the River runs North East and South West, and is about 400 Paces over. The Palm and other Trees hereabout, were the first we had seen since our Departure from *Bagdat*. The Soil on both Sides the River is very fat. All this Way we found much *Origanum*, very tall and grown, and of an extraordinary Fragrancy. The Day's Journey was good 6 Leagues. Here we understood there was a *Caravan* at *Ana*, bound for *Aleppo*, which was a great Satisfaction to us, believing we should lose less time; and here we kill'd a Sheep we had bought of the Shepherds, which was some Refreshment, having eaten no Flesh in all the Way from *Bagdat*.

Medyk
Nacerya.

Wednesday the 22th we set out with the Sun along the River Side, following its Windings, which are many, on a narrow Way the *Arabs* call *Medyk Nacerya*, that is, the Streights of *Nacerya*, from the little Way there is between the Mountains and the River that was on our Left. Being pass'd these Mountains and Streights, along which we had Sight of some Towns, Groves, Palm-Trees, and watering Wells, on the farther Bank of the River, we fell into open, plain, and good Grounds, cultivated, striking off a good Distance from the River, because there it takes a Turn. Then we return'd to it, and after some little bad Way, follow'd on over the same Plains North West and West, North West as far as a dry Channel, where the *Caravan* took up at 3 in the Afternoon, without any Water, but what we had taken at the River, when we left it, in Skins always carry'd for that Purpose, without which it were impossible to pass that Desert and others much less. In these Parts, along the River, there are many Farms, Mills, and several great Wheels, which being drove by the River, bring up Water to moisten those Fields, which are most of them till'd and sow'd. From henceforward almost all the Land near the River is Mountainous. This Place, where we

Ved Ga-
rabah.

lay at Night, the *Arabs* call *Ved Garabah*, that is the Channel that is Boundary to the City; for I suppose, the Liberty of *Anna*, whither we were going, extended so far. Our Days Journey was about 7 Leagues. This Night 3 Men on Horseback pass'd by us, being Merchant *Cirades* going to *Anna*, where their Goods were, and had been making their Complaints to the *Amir*, who is Lord of those Lands, of Wrongs done them by his Officers. Before Break of Day a Thief got in among our Company, and took away an Ass belonging to a *Mahometan* Inhabitant of *Anna*, without being observ'd by any but the Owner, who tho' he saw him

him lead the Beast away, had not the Courage to cry out, and the Thief to get off the shortest Way, cut some of the Cords of *James de Melo's* Tent.

Thursday the 23th we were going before Day, over various sorts of Lands till Noon, when we went down high and craggy Mountains towards the River *Euphrates*, that runs at the Foot of them, and on both whose Banks, the Town of *Ana* we were design'd for stands. This half Day's Journey was about 5 Leagues. When we began to descend from the Mountains, *James Fernandez*, my Comrade, and I, came out of our Cradles. I took the Ridge of the Hill, the better to observe the Situation of the Town, and what else is thence to be seen, which is a considerable Distance. Having done it I follow'd the Company, which was then near the River, on whose Bank, still of the Side of *Mesopotamia*, we continued that Afternoon and the next Night, which was very troublesome, keeping strict Watch for fear of Robbers, but glad it had pleas'd God to bring us so far in Safety. My Comrade, as soon as we reach'd this Place, cross'd the River, to procure Leave for us to go over, which cannot be done without it, and tho' he took much Pains, could not obtain it; but after he was return'd tir'd and vex'd, two of the *Amir's* Officers brought it him at Night, by the Procurement of a Jew, to whom *James Fernandez* was recommended. They would have had us go over immediately, but we forbore because it was dark, fearing some Trouble or Miscarriage, so that it was put off till Morning, and the Officers went away, but not without being well paid for their needless Trouble. *Friday* the 24th in the Morning we pass'd over the River which the *Arabs* call'd *Xam*, leaving *Mesopotamia*, by those People nam'd *Jazirey*, that is, *The Island*, from its lying between the two Rivers *Tygris* and *Euphrates*, which the Name *Mesopotamia* denotes. Having landed all our Goods and Equipage, we set up our Tents on a rising Ground, with much Rain, and rested our selves, but not much, the Rain and Baseness of the People obstructing. The Way we took from *Bagdat* hither, is not the same the *Caravans* usually go; for they strike higher to the Northward, which is farther about; and for this Reason, as also because this is safe, as least frequented, it was chosen rather than the other.

C H A P. VIII.

The Description of Ana on the River Euphrates.

Antiquity
of Ana.

ANA, which in *Arabick* signifies Pain or Trouble, seated on the Banks of the River *Forat* or *Euphrates*, is a Town of great Antiquity, according to the Tradition of the Inhabitants, besides which the Scripture most certainly informs us of it; for in the 2d Book of *Kings*, Chap. 19, we read that *Sennacherib* King of *Affyria* threatening *Hezekiah*, ask'd of him among other things in his Letter; *Where is the King of Hamath, and the King of Arpad, and the King of the City of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivah.* [These two last are so written in the *English* Translation; but the *Latin* calls them *Ana* and *Ava*.] Which plainly demonstrates its Antiquity, and this clearly appears to be the same with that there mention'd, because he could not well pass out of *Affyria* into *Palestine*, unless he had first subdued these that lay in his Way, which is my Opinion under Correction, not questioning but in so many Ages it must be much chang'd from what it was. *Ana* is seated on both Banks of the *Euphrates*, upon a Winding that runs North East and South West. At the North End of this Turning is an Island (besides many other both above and below, all cultivated) about a Mile in Compass, with a Wall round it, but decay'd with Age, On the North Point of it stands a Fort, kept by a Garrison of 100 *Turks*, with some Cannon; and without it are Houses, Palm-Trees, Gardens, and a Market, and there was a publick Bath, when it belong'd to the *Cazel Bax*, or the *Persians*, who were Masters of all those Lands and *Bagdat*. The River here runs between uncooth and high Mountains, and on the Side of *Mesopotamia* there is but 100 or 200 Paces of Land between them and the Water; and to the Westward of the River, at the Place they call *Xam*, from 2 to 300 where widest. On this narrow Spot stands the Town, consisting of only 2 Streets, one on each Side of the River, of which that on the Side of *Mesopotamia*, being about 2 Miles in Length, is neither very Populous, nor inhabited by any but labouring People. The other on the Side of *Xam*, is above 2 Leagues in Length, and there is the best of the Town. The Street runs directly along the Middle of that Slip of Land, the Houses built on both Sides, all of them one or two Stories high, square, and flat roof'd, tho' small; only the *Mosque* is til'd, and the Water fall is but one Way, nor do

Fort in an
Island.

The Town.

I remember to have seen any other House til'd in all those Parts, Every House has its little Spot of Ground, or Outlet, some towards the River, and the others to the Mountains, and in them Abundance of Palm, Orange, Lemmon, Citron, Pear, Quince, Fig, Pomgranate, and many other Sorts of *European Trees*, besides Abundance of Olive, as large as great Chestnut Trees. The Soil is so good, assisted with the River-Water, that it produces all things in great Plenty and Exuberance, generally each Palm Tree Root brings forth 4, 5, or 6 most fruitful Trunks. Where the Plain is proper, they sow Wheat and Barley, which always thrives well. The Air is most serene, the Houses all of Stone and Plaister of *Paris*, or else of Lime, Stone, and Clay. Between the Mountain and the Grounds belonging to the Houses, is a moderate Ditch, which in Winter serves to receive the Water, and divert it from overflowing them, and in Summer to hold the Water drawn up with Wheels from the River to refresh them. The whole Number of Houses on both Sides, may amount to 400, of which 120 belong to *Arabian Jews*, who are not rich, but live decently, and are well look'd upon by the Lord of the Place and his Officers, tho' they pay for it according to Custom. These have Houses and Lands of their own, as well as the *Mahometans*, to whom all the rest of the Town belongs. These are divided into 2 Factions, the one descended from the ancient Inhabitants of the Country, and these are *Mahometans* in Name and outward Shew, and in other Respects look upon *Mahometanism* as it deserves, but are ne'er the better themselves. Their Ancestors worshipp'd the Sun, and I believe they still retain this and other Superstitions in private, which besides its being told me by many, I conjectur'd, by one who came frequently to our Tent, whilst we were there, and always discours'd about the Sun, asking me what I thought of him, and what Opinion the Christians had of his Beauty, Motion, and Effects, highly extolling his Excellency. The other *Mahometans* are Strangers that have settled here by degrees. The Lord of this Place is an *Arab*, call'd *Amir Hamed Aburiza*, the most potent of all that Part of *Arabistan*, and yet subject to the *Turk*, who has bestow'd many of these and the other Lands about upon his own People. The Duties of all Goods and Commodities passing that Way, are paid to the *Amir*, besides a small Acknowledgment to the *Turk*. It is set at so much a Load, and not by Number, Measure, or Value; and each Load pays about 5 Ducats; but reckoning the Frauds and Extortions of the Officers, they will amount to 10 and better. This is to be understood of valuable Commodities, as Silk, Cloth, *Indigo*, Spice, and the like; for Galls, Dates, and such others, they pay a Ducat a Load, which

Fertility.

Jews.

Natives.

Duties on Goods.

No Market.

with the Exactions may be two. This Country affords an infinite Quantity of Dates, carry'd to *Aleppo*, *Tripoli*, *Damascus*, and other Parts to sell. The common Sort of People live on them, and other Provisions are not dear, except Rice, that is brought from *Bagdat*, to whose Government this Town is subject. Yet here is one great Inconveniency for Strangers and Travellers, and is that they have no publick Market to buy any Necessaries in, except Mutton, which was not to be had when we came. It is by the *Amir's* Order that they have no publick Market to ease the Inhabitants from Trouble; because the Country *Arabs* are so insolent that they fear neither God nor the King, when they have an Opportunity to rob; however, those who want any thing may buy it in private Houses. About 30 great Barks belong to the Town, and serve to carry Passengers, and trade to other Places up and down the River, in the midst whereof there are many Mills, and it has Plenty of good Fish, whereof the *Mahometans* make small Account. The Natives are generally white and some of them live decently. They commonly wear great loose Garments of Sheep's Skins down to their Heels, open before from the Neck to the Breast, and from the Belly downwards, with very wide Sleeves. When it rains they turn the Wool outwards; but when the Wind blows or it is cold, they turn it in; and this Habit over their other Cloaths, is usual throughout the Country. Here is Plenty of white Salt, brought out of *Mesopotamia*, from a Mine they call *Sine Sela*, 2 Days Journey distant; but Wood is very scarce.

Habit.

Trade of Galls.

This Place is the common Road for the Caravans, going and coming to *Aleppo*, *Tripoli*, by them call'd *Tarabolis*, *Damascus*, and *Bagdat*, tho' they may go other Ways, paying the Duties. At our coming hither we found 2 Gangs or Companies, that had been 2 Months waiting for an Opportunity of going to *Aleppo*. One of them was of *Curdes*, carrying Silks; the other of *Mosulis*, being Merchants of *Mosul*, a Town of *Diarbeh* or *Karatmit* in *Mesopotamia*, on the River *Tygris*, trading in fine Stuffs, whereof there is Plenty, as also Galls, which are sent thence every Year to *Aleppo*, *Tripoli*, *Damascus*, and *Bagdat*, from which last above 12000 Camel Loads go every Year to *Bazora*, thence to *India*, and as far as *China*. They usually bring the Camels to feed here on the Side of *Mesopotamia*, because there is little Pasture on the other Side, and that far off and dangerous, and fetch them over the Day before they set out. To serve them on the Road they carry Sacks of Barley Meal, and Cotton Seed, and other things, which they work up with Water into Balls as big as Ostriches Eggs, and give them at Night besides their Grazing.

Camels Food and other Particulars.

for

for tho' they are Creatures that endure much Want of Food and Water, yet not so very much as some have writ of them; nor do they carry so great a Burden, 600 Weight being themost that is laid on the strongest and soundest of them, with which they only travel 8 or 9 Hours, and very often fall lame. There is much Difference between Camels, for those of Hot Countries are more fit for Labour, than such as are of Cold. The Camels have a Bunch in the middle of the Back, which is a great Conveniency for carrying the Load; and there are some that have two, forming as it were a Saddle between them; these are properly call'd Dromedaries. They all shed their Hair every Year in Winter, and it grows again in the Spring. Some are very swift in travelling, but they are few. They all load and unload lying on the Ground, and there only needs tying up either of their Fore Feet bow'd, as they lye on the Ground, to make them quiet. To conclude it is a Creature that expresses its Pain with doleful Cries, and perfect Tears. In all these Countries the Men Spin much Wool with Spindles, and the Women with Wheels; but I do not remember to have seen so many Men at it any where as here.

Spinning.

Some *Mahometan* Merchants Inhabitants of this Town came in our Company from *Bagdat*, and intended to go on with us to *Aleppo*. They being come to their own Houses, and thinking it more Discretion to spend the Depth of the Winter in them, than without Shelter in the Deserts, would not proceed any farther at that time; but made us stay, to bear them Company; when it should suit their Conveniency to travel. Thus the Duties being adjusted on the 28th of *December*, and we very well pleas'd expecting to be gone in two or three Days, the *Amir's* Officers hinder'd us, not permitting the Camels to pass, at the Request of the Merchants of *Ana*, pretending that *Dendal* lay in the Way to rob us, he being a Nephew of the *Amir's*, and rightful Heir to those Lands, from whom the Unkle had usurp'd them. We disprov'd this Fiction by the Testimony of some Persons that came from those Parts, and affirm'd, that *Dendal*, and a Brother of his were gone with their Followers towards *Egypt*. This Fraud being detected, they invented another, that *Aleppo* was again besieged; but perceiving that nevertheless we were resolv'd to venture, they desir'd us to wait for 60 Camels that were sending to fetch the *Amir's* Dates, to be carry'd to *Aleppo* with us, which would return in eight or ten Days, and then we should presently depart. We were therefore oblig'd to stay here all the dead of Winter, in the Cold, Rain and snow, under *James Fernandez's* Tent, without whose Kindness and Assistance,

sistance, I should have far'd very ill this Journey. We lay by the River Side, looking upon that Place as safer than any House in the Town, being jealous of the Avarice of the *Arabs*, which made us very watchful; for we were expos'd to the Importunity of all the *Beduynes*, that would call at the Tent to eat and drink; and none of the *Arabs*, from the highest to the lowest think this any Shame, if they cannot steal, which they like better. The worst is, that they beg as if it were their due, and take what is given, as if they did you some Honour and Favour; and the more you give them, the more they crave, all which must be manag'd with Patience and Discretion, and after all it is hard to avoid Trouble.

Whilst we stay'd here many *Turkymans* pass'd over with great Flocks of Sheep from *Fazirey* to *Xam*, driving them to sell at *Damascus*, *Tripoli*, *Aleppo*, and even as far as *Constantinople*. They here pay 20 Ducats Duty and Passage, for every Thousand Heads. There also came some Camels from *Mosul* loaded with Galls. This delay troubled us very much, seeing all Hopes of our Departure put off, and our selves consum'd with Cold, continual Watching, Frights, Oppression, and the Importunity of the *Arabs*. This must have made an End of us, had it lasted; but it pleas'd God that the *Curdes* and *Mosuli* Merchants, growing weary of so many Delays, agreed to go with us, notwithstanding the New Obstacles rais'd by those of *Ana*, which occasion'd much Contention; but all Difficulties being overcome, we caus'd the Camels to be brought over from *Fazirey*, in *Mesopotamia*, to *Xam*, where we were, on *Wednesday* the 12th of *January* 1605, and the same Day in the Afternoon, came the Camels, with the *Amir's* Dates, that had been sent for.

CHAP. IX.

Our Departure from Ana, and Journey through the Desert to Sukana.

Thursday the 13th of *January* 1605, after fresh Contests and Debates, we departed from the River at 9 in the Morning, and leaving it behind us, went up a Mountain, not so high as craggy, and having travell'd about a League of bad Way, enter'd upon a smooother, but not more fruitful Country, where
we

we stay'd, for all the *Caravan* to join. The *Arabs* call that Place *Tel alyud*, that is, the Jew's Hill, because they have their Houses at the Foot of the Mountain, on the other Side, in the midst of the Town, next the River, and from them that District takes Name. The Robbers had the Night before, in this same Place, fallen upon some *Turkymen* Shepherds, who were there feeding three great Flocks of Sheep. These seeing us set up our Tents, drew up close about us with their Cattel, which put us upon our Guard, fearing some Villany, which they, tho' Shepherds are apt to commit, when they meet with a fair Opportunity, and are bold and resolute. The first Watch fell to my turn that Night, for during this whole Journey either by Sea, or Land, in Towns or Deserts, I took my Turn of standing Sentinel, unless it were in great Cities. Having perform'd my Watch, with much Difficulty, as being in a Fever I went in, and lying down in my Cloaths on the Bed, which was a Blanket laid on a Chest, with several Knots of the Cord that bound it; as soon as I had laid my self, and began to feel my Fever and Head Ach encrease, I heard my Comrade, who had taken my Post calling me in Hast. I got up, laid hold of my Arms, and stood at the Door of the Tent, with my Firelock presented. The Occasion of it was, that the Robbers had fallen in among the Cattel very softly, and the Sheep making some Noise, the Shepherds and others ran out, and put them to flight; so that they carry'd but one off.

Saturday the 15th, we continu'd in the same Place with much Vexation, because those we had agreed with did not follow us, being hinder'd by Difficulties, those of *Ana* started after our Departure, perswading the Drivers of the Camels belonging to the other Merchants to delay their Passage, on Pretence that *Aleppo* was again besieged, and the Road infested by *Dendal*, and *Fyad*, the *Amir's* Nephews. Whilst we were under this Affliction, without any Remedy but Patience, and our Confidence in God, there came this same Morning a *Caravan* from *Damascus*, which passing by the Place where we were, in the way to the Town, certainly inform'd us, that *Aleppo* was clear, and the Road safe; which was so certainly true, that 8 or 10 unarm'd Men, had brought 100 Loaded Camels all that Way, without any Misfortune. This News somewhat satisfy'd us, and rais'd our Hopes of departing speedily. Monday the 17th, 80 Camels more came to the same Place from *Juba* and *Haddyr*, loaded with the *Amir's* Dates, to go along with us; and this same Morning the *Curdes* came out of *Ana*, with Part of the *Mosulis*, so that things began to be dispos'd for the Departure of the *Caravan*.

Friday

Ruman
hen.

Jubab and
Mecazar
Jubab.

Friday the 21th of January, it began to move about 8 in the Morning, we being the first, whom some others follow'd, all that march'd at that time making 120 Camels. We travell'd almost four Leagues to the Westward, over Mountains, uncooth and barren Lands, and then fell into others that were plain and full of Pasture, on which many Flocks of Sheep were feeding. In the midst of this Plain, are two high and round Mounts, separated from one another, which give Name to all that Territory, therefore by the *Arabs* call'd *Ruman hen*, that is, two Pomgranates, a Name very proper considering their Shape. Having pass'd them, and advanc'd three Leagues, we halted at four in the Afternoon, in a pleasant Meadow, full of green Grass, but without Water, the rest of the *Caravan* not following us, being detain'd by the Custom House Officers, because some had not paid the Duties, putting it off till that Day, for to avoid Confusion they use to do it in the Field, when the *Caravan* is setting out. The Payment being by the Load or Bale, is easily adjusted, and there is a much better Method observ'd herein among the *Mahometans*, than in *Europe* among Christians. Saturday the 22th, we departed thence, and travell'd Westward, with a very high Wind, and cold Weather, sometimes over good Plain Fields, and sometimes through Brakes and Vallies, and over Hills. We had gone about five Leagues, when we came to a *Mansel*, where the *Caravans* use to stay, but we pass'd on, because there was no Water, and to shorten the next Journey, that we might reach the River, for all the way to it there is no Water. That *Mansel* is call'd *Jubab*, signifying, Wells of Water. At five in the Afternoon, we encamp'd in a Field without Water, by the *Arabs* call'd *Mecazar Jubab*, having gone five Leagues. All along this way there were many Flocks of Sheep Grazing.

Sunday the 23th, we mov'd at Sun rising toward the North West, over various Sorts of Land, till we came to a mighty Channel, then dry, the Bottom whereof, as far as we could see, was all of solid white Stone, as hard as Marble, and as smooth, as if it had been pav'd by Art, along which there were Abundance of little Caves, or Hollows, which the *Arabs* said were made by the Rain, of which Water they were full. Men and Beasts drank of it, and the rest was put up in Skins, there being no other thereabouts. As soon as ever we had taken it, two *Turkymans* come up a Horse back, with their Bows and Quivers, being lusty likely Men, to see whether there was any Water for their Cattel, and we were not pleas'd at the Sight of them, because it is best and safest to see no body along those Ways. We would willingly have reach'd the River this Day, but one of the *Crudes* obstructed

obstructed it, because he waited for the *Caravan*. Therefore leaving that Channel, we proceeded a little farther, to lie at the Foot of one of two Mounts, which like the last mention'd stand in the Midst of great Plains, and give Name to them, being call'd by the *Arabs*, *Aden then*, that is, *The two Ears*, a Name very proper. I went up to the Top of one of these Mounts, which are equal in Height and Shape, whence, the Country being so plain, a great Extent round about is discover'd. We halted here at one in the Afternoon, and it was so cold this Night and the next Morning, that at Break of Day we found the Water frozen in the Skins. This Days Journey was 5 Leagues.

Monday the 24th we march'd at Break of Day Westward, the Lands like the last as far as the River, which there glides very gently. That Place is a *Manzel* for the *Caravans*, by the *Arabs* call'd *Kahem*, from a little Tower or Tomb standing on the Bank of the River, either built by, or containing the Body of one of the Name of *Kahem*, which is the same as *Cain* among us. The *Arabs* have a Tradition, and most of the Company assur'd me there had been a great and noble City in this Place, which they highly magnifie, and stood on both Sides of the River; but no Footsteps remain of it at present. We had travell'd about 6 Leagues to this Place; most of the Camels which carry'd the *Amir's* Dates had left us, and were gone another Way 2 Hours before, the Owners of them, who were Inhabitants of *Sucana*, being gone thither to rest them, whilst the *Caravan* came up. Only we and the *Mosuls*, who could not make up 40 Camels, came to this Place, and not thinking it safe for so small a Company, as being much frequented by Robbers, we resolv'd to go find out the rest, and keep them Company. The *Mosuls* were for expecting the *Caravan*, being afraid, and with good reason, to cross the Desert, which commences there, with so small a Number; so that both Sides persisting in their Opinion, we came to hard Words, and were not far from Blows; but my Comerade *James Fernandez*, who was chief of the Strangers and Merchants, was positive, and in Spite of the *Mosuls*, made us move towards the others, whom we found after travelling 2 Leagues, just at Night Fall, in a Place the *Arabs* call *Telul mana hyat*, that is, *The Hills of the Wells of Water*, from one we found there full of Rain Water, which is dirty and loathsome enough; but Want made it appear clean and pleasant. The *Mosuls*, who would have made us stay by the River, perceiving we were gone, follow'd, thro' Fear against their Will, and join'd us far in the Night.

Kahem
Manzel.

Telul ma-
na hyat.

Tuesday the 25th we advanc'd at Sun-rising, towards the North West, over several Sorts of Land, till 5 in the Afternoon, when we enter'd upon spacious Plains, and in the midst of them found about 40 Houses of *Turkymans*, with their Families and Cattel, Sheep, Camels, and Mules grazing about. The Houses are all round, the Roofs convex, the Frame within of Poles or Canes, and the Covering without of Felts. They are all moveable, and so contriv'd, as to be roll'd up together, and carry'd on Camels from Place to Place. Some of them were very cleanly and curious, hung within, particularly the *Xequ's*, which was large and handsome. These *Turkymans* are true *Turks*, of the first that came out of *Turkestan*, and being pleas'd with a Country Life, they stay'd in these Fields, before possess'd by the *Arabs*, with their Families and Cattel, in *Tayffas*, so they call those the *Arabs* name *Cabiley*, and we Tribes, and the *Tarias*, *Orda*, or as we say *Hards*, which is the same. They are brave either on Foot or a Horseback, well Limb'd, strong, patient of Labour, and resolute in any Undertaking, living on their Breed of Cattel; but if they meet with any Opportunity of robbing, will not let it slip. Whilst the Ewes graze, they keep their Lambs shut up in a House; and in the Evening, when the Dams come home, let loose their Young, which all presently find out and know one another, as well as if there was no Number of them; when they are together they tie the fore Feet of the Ewes, that they may not stray, and the Lambs may suck quietly. When we came thither, I saw above 600 Lambs let out of a House, and it was pleasant to see them and the Ewes meet. When full they shut them up again, and the Ewes go back to graze. I thought this a good, safe, and advantageous Method of Breeding. The Men live upon Milk, and such things as they make of it, and tho' they had so much Cattel, would not sell us a Sheep, unless it were some salted and hung Carcases of such as died naturally, or by some Misfortune, which we would not have, and the Owners of the Camels bought them. We being apprehensive of some Trouble from those wicked People, *Mustapha*, who went with, *James de Asolo*, pretended he was the *Amir's* *Chau*, that is, his *Envoy*, or *special Messenger*, and that he who carry'd the Dates was his Servant, putting me into the Number, alledging that I had Skill in Physick, and was sent by the *Amir* to chuse some things they were to buy at *Aleppo*. This Fiction made them shew us some Civility and Respect, treating us with some of their Sheeps Milk, which was no small Dainty. Their Women do not conceal themselves, but are of a very sturdy Disposition; they generally look after the Cattel. They are clad almost after the

Manner

Turky-
man Hou-
ses.

Who they
are.

Breeding
of Lambs.

Women.

Manner of the *Galicians* in *Spain*, all of them wear Neat's Skin Boots, short Petticoats, close Doublets, and very long Cloths wrapp'd about their Heads, in the Shape of a Pyramid. The *Arabs* call this Place *Meenah*, and it has no Water.

Wednesday the 26th we left this Place at Break of Day, and travelling about 3 Leagues North, came into a Plain as spacious as the Eye could reach over, almost all inclos'd with a Ridge of fat Land, like a great Trench. Quite across it ran a Channel, no less level and even, about 50 or 60 Paces over, and tho' then dry, shew'd it must look very pleasant when full of Water. In this Place was another *Hord* or *Tribe* of *Turkymans*, with great Flocks of Sheep, many Camels, and other Beasts; the People decent and cleanly, but not so easy and civil as the last. They ask'd for some Dates, and were told none could be given, because they were the *Amir's*; but if they would take them they might. They made no Answer; but it plainly appear'd, that a little Matter would have perswaded them to take the Dates and all the rest; nor were we well pleas'd to see their Greediness. Near the Channel were 3 Wells of Water, where their Cattel drank; and our Camel Drivers fill'd their Skins and other Vessels, and so we went on. The *Arabs* call this Place *Miy al Meenah* or *Methenah*, that is, *The Water of Meenah*. We proceeded over several Sorts of Lands, most of them extraordinary good and plain, meeting some more Shepherds and Camels, and seeing many Hares, till having gone about 10 Leagues, we settled in a very plain Field without Water, call'd by the *Arabs*, *Tabakt Seguer*, where we endur'd much Thirst, the Water we had brought being so foul and ill scented, that there was no drinking of it.

Tabakt
Seguer.

Thursday the 27th we mov'd at Break of Day, over extraordinary plain good Lands, towards the North West, and having gone about 3 Leagues, pass'd thro' a dreadful Channel then dry, by the *Arabs* call'd *Sehel*, and the usual *Manzel* of *Caravans*. There were some Wells of good Water, at which we partly quench'd our Thirst, and travell'd on till about 5 in the Afternoon, when we encamp'd in a very plain Field of hard Sand, in which there were some Wells of good Water. The *Arabian* Name of this Place is *Jubeba*, and our Days Journey was 7 Leagues. *Friday* the 28th we proceeded as soon as it was Day to the Northward, over very plain, clean, and good Lands, only here and there some Stones. We met a great Flock of Camels, belonging to *Turkymans*, grazing; and having march'd 7 Leagues, encamp'd about Sun Setting, in a Place without Water, call'd by the *Arabs*, *Ragem al Kayma*, that is, *The Heap of Stones of the Pavilion* or *Tent*, from one there was for a Land Mark, made in

Jubeba.

that Shape. In all this Way we saw no Mountain, Hill, Eminence, or uneven Ground, but only when we took up our Quarters at a great Distance from us, a Mountain the *Arabs* call *Gibel el Bexar*, that is, *The Mountain of Bexar*, the Name of a *Hord* or *Tribe* of theirs living on it; and perhaps it was in Memory of this, that the *Arabs* gave the Name of *Bejar* to the City in *Spain*, which is the Title of a Duke. We saw many Hares, and hunted some, with a Dog my Comerade brought, call'd *Merzoko*, which in *Arabick* signifies *Good Fortune* or *Good Luck*, but he never had any so good as to catch one. The Truth is, I think none I ever saw in any Part of the World, ran so fast as these.

Saturday the 29th we got up half an Hour after the Sun, and advanc'd North West, over very plain good Lands, with the Mountain *Bexar* on our Right; and having gone 7 Leagues, took up at Sun Setting, among 10 or 12 Houses of *Turkymans*, who fed their Cattel thereabouts. Here as we were unlading, began a bloody and dangerous Fray, between our Camel Drivers and some of the *Mosuls*; for falling from Words to Blows, there were some broken Heads, and we had enough to do to appease them, which cost us much Trouble, rather for our own Sakes than theirs. The Occasion of it was about going to *Sucana*, a Village where those who carry'd the *Amir's* Dates liv'd, and they would wait there, as was said before, till the *Caravan* came to *Tayba*, which is another Village in the Way; and it being inconvenient for us to part from them in those Desarts, we were oblig'd to follow whither they pleas'd, contrary to ours and the Inclinations of the *Mosuls*, whom they had before promis'd to bear us Company as far as *Tayba*: Now the *Mosuls* contending that we should perform our Journey without them, and our Men opposing, because they would not break Company, and expose themselves to Danger, they fell together by the Ears, so that some of them came off with bloody Noses, and at length our Men prevail'd, and we were oblig'd to keep Company with those that carry'd the Dates. This Place is call'd *Ketef el Hel*, and has no Water, for which Reason we had provided before; saw Abundance of Hares, and great Flocks of wild Asses.

Ketef el
Hel.

Sunday the 30th, at Sun Rising we set out towards the North West, over plain good Lands, having high Hills and Mountains in Sight, from half a Day's Journey backwards. In these Plains we saw many great Flocks of Cattel belonging to *Turkymans*, and many of their Houses, but all separate and remote from one another. These were of the Tribe call'd *Beghdely*, which alone, among all those that graze upon the Plains, does not acknowledge the

the *Amir*, because it makes 8000 Horse most Archers, with some Fire Arms, so that they are above any Vassalage. Still we found very many Hares and wild Asses, and about an Hour and a Half before Sun Setting began to go down Brakes and craggy course Land, yet good, and came an Hour in the Night to some Wells of very bad Water, where the *Turkymans* were giving Drink to their Camels and Cattle. This Day's Journey was about 9 Leagues, to this Place by the *Arabs* call'd *Naquid*, signifying, the Deputy to any Master. Here we lay all Night with little Safety, and many Apprehensions, having somewhat higher on our Left a Channel famous in those Parts, tho' then dry, call'd *Gadyr ather*. Monday the 31th of *January*, we were up two Hours before Day, the Night extremely Dark, and mov'd on North West, over a very plain and spacious Vale, between Hills and Mountains, making all possible Hast, as fearing to be set upon thereabouts by Robbers. Thus we went till 9 of the Clock with much Rain, and then reach'd a Village, call'd *Sucana*, seated on a Neck of Land, between two Mountains, where we took up in an ancient, but spacious and strong *Khan*, about 100 Paces short of the Town, which consists of 150 Houses, all of them, small, poor and mean, made of unburnt Bricks, Mud Walls, and small Stones, and inhabited by *Arabs* and *Turkymans*.

Gadyr
ather.

This Town deriv'd its Original from a Fort, still standing in the middle of it, but much decay'd, built in that Place for the Security of the *Caravans* going from *Damascus*, and *Tripoli*, to *Bagdat* and *Bazora*, or returning thence; as was *Taybah*, for those of *Aleppo*, which us'd to be convey'd thus far by such a Number of Soldiers as was thought requisite, who having brought them safe to this Garrison return'd home. This Method has been broken ever since those Lands fell under the Dominion of the *Turks*. I remember there still was a little Iron Gun on the flat Roof of the Fort, which I suppose serves to scare Robbers. About 200 Paces to the Southward of it, is a Spring of sulphureous, hot, stinking Water, rising and flowing into a round Pool, which is the Work of Nature, whence it runs to the Southward, and waters some Orchards and plow'd Lands thereabouts. That Water gives Name to the Place, for in *Arabick*, *Sukan* signifies Hot, all the Inhabitants drink of it, and there both Men and Women Bathe themselves without any Shame, which done, they go pray in a *Mosque* there is hard by the Pool. The Salt they use there is made of the over-plus of this Water, after it has supply'd the Orchards and Lands, and is join'd by another, not so bad, which meets it at a Distance from the Source, in a Valley full of Salt Peter. In short, it is an open Village, very poor and

Sucana
Village.

A bot.
Spring.

and wretched, where every thing is scarce and dear, especially Wood, instead of which they burn Camels and other Beasts Dung dry'd. The Air is unwholesome, the Provisions scarce and unsavory; and yet as bad as the Town is, I saw some Women like Angels in it. Here we stay'd five Days, not without Trouble from the Inhabitants, for there is no Town without a Mayor, Bailiff, or High Constable, and every one of them fancies himself as great as a King, that being as usual there as among us. We kept strict Guard, being as much afraid of the Inhabitants, as of those abroad. Here *James de Melo*, forgetting where we were, that it was not in *India*, where Passion has some regard to Reason, fell into a Rage with a Camel Driver, threatening him with his Sword, which might have cost him dear, had not much Intreaty and Compliance prevail'd. He met with some other Crosses in this Journey, for want of considering and weighing the Difference of Times and Places; for those who either cannot, or will not do so, had better stay at home. We waited here for Advice of the Arrival of the Caravan at *Taybah*, having a Man there on Purpose to bring it us, that we might go join it; which being brought on the 5th of February in the Morning, we immediatly loaded and set out.

CHAP. X.

Our Departure from Sucana, and joining the Caravan at Taybah, whence we set out for Aleppo, and were attack'd by Robbers.

Saturday the 5th of February we left *Sucana*, at 9 in the Morning, and having travell'd about two Leagues Westward, along the Foot of a Mountain, struck up it to the Northward, for two Leagues more of uncooth and dangerous Way, which we were forc'd to travel a Foot, and then came into a very spacious Vale, abounding in Pasture, enclos'd with Hills, and at the Foot of one of them, which lyes to the Northward, on a rising above the rest of the Valley, stands a Town of above 250 Houses founded on the Ruins of an ancienter that belong'd to French Christians. There is still standing a Tower or Belfrey built with Lime and Stone, which serves for an *Alcazar*, and under it a filthy *Mosque*, supported by Pieces of stately Marble Columns, which

Taybah
Town.

which did belong to the Church in that Place. Here is a Tolerable Fort of Earth, on the Ruins of an ancienter, which was of Stone; and the Remains shows it to have been a good Structure and considerable Place. The Town is close built, the Houses of Clay and Mortar, the Walls of them Square, but the Roofs of the same Materials and Pyramidal. They call it *Taybah*, that is, a healthy Place, from the *Arabick* Word *Tayb*, signifying Health, or good Disposition, because the Air and Temperature is serene. At a small Distance from it is a sulphureous Spring, like that of *Sucana*, but much more tolerable, and better kept, as are some Gardens and Orchards on one side of the Valley. The Inhabitants are *Arabs*, living on their Cattle and Tillage. This Town and *Sucana* are also subject to the *Amir*, who is Lord of *Ana*, who holds them as a *Sanglach*, under the *Turk*; and as the *Caravans* of *Damascus* and *Tripoli* pass through *Sucana*, so is *Taybah* the Road for those of *Aleppo*, and in both of them a Duty of about 50 or 60 Maravedies being under eight Pence is paid for every Camel, either loaded or unloaded, for there are Camels carry'd to be sold at *Aleppo*; but the Extortions of the *Sabaxyes*, which are the Tax Gatherers, make this Duty much greater.

We came to *Taybah*, where the *Caravan* was in the Field a little before Sun set, having travell'd six Leagues. I had scarce time to see the Town, in Company with a *Mahometan* who was my Friend; yet made a Shift to take a View of it, and return'd into the Field to the *Caravan*, which now with ours made up 600 Camels, besides some Horses and Asses. This Night we lay something more quiet, because of the Strength of the Company, which amounted to about 200 Men, of several Nations, yet all this could not prevent that which afterwards happened.

Sunday the 6th of February, we departed *Taybah* at Sun rising, and travell'd Northward, over very plain and good Lands, abounding in Pasture, with Mountains on both Sides, at a great Distance. This continu'd two thirds of the Day; and after that uneven Mountain Grounds till Sun set, when we pitch'd in a Place without Water, by the *Arabs* call'd *Habe Oje*, that is, the crooked Way, our Journey having been 8 Leagues. In those Plains we pass'd over, the Inhabitants of *Taybah* use to hunt the Gazelles, Creatures like Roes, which they do after this Manner. They set up two Rows of small Rods about a Cubit high in the Midst of the Field, forming a long and wide Lane, and to every Rod they tye a Rag, that may Wave with the Wind. In the Midst of that Lane they make several great Pits, cover'd over with Straw and Grass; then running about the Mountains and Plain in small Gangs

Hunting
of Gazelles

or

or Companies, they put up the Game, and drive it towards the Rods. The Creatures being in fear of those that pursue, and terrified by the Motion of the Rags fasten'd to the Rods on both Sides, fall into the Pits, where they are taken dead or alive. Monday the 7th the Caravan broke up before Sun Rising, and having march'd 7 Leagues to the Northward, over various Sorts of Lands, both as to Goodness and Position, till Sunset, lay that Night at the Foot of certain Mountains, near some Wells of very bad stinking Water, by the Arabs therefore call'd *Abnememich*, that is, *The Father of the ill Waters*. All the Fields from Taybah hither, were full of several small Tufts of Bushes, most of which were Rosemary.

Tuesday the 8th the Caravan mov'd after the Sun was up, to the Northward, over very plain good Lands, with a Ridge of high Mountains at a great Distance on the Left, on one of which still remain the Ruins of a great City once inhabited by Christians, which I saw far off, tho' not distinctly; but all the *Mahometans* and some *Armenian* Christians affirm'd it as a most certain Truth, assuring me there were Altars, stone Crosses, and Pieces of Buildings of a wonderful Structure, still standing. Having advanc'd 5 Leagues, we took up our Quarters, by reason of a heavy and continual Rain, which began in the Afternoon, and lasted all the rest of that Day, and the following Night, with much Cold till Morning, when we were all well-soak'd, no Tents, or other Coverings being sufficient to defend us; and yet we were very thirsty, there being no Water in the Place. Wednesday the 9th the Day came on very cloudy, close, and foggy; for which reason the Caravan did not stir till 9, and having travell'd little above half a League, was suddenly set upon by about 300 Arabian Robbers on Horseback, arm'd with Spears, and giving loud Shouts; for by reason of a thick Fog, we did not see them till they were in the Midst of the Caravan, out of which they presently kill'd 200 Camels, which they could easily do, because they usually travel in separate Gangs, to avoid Confusion. We presently alighted from our Cradles, and handling our Arms, some Firelocks, and others Bows and Swords, soon gather'd all the rest of the Caravan in one Place, and fac'd them; so that they durst not break in again, tho' they attempted it. It was dismal to see, when we were almost at our Journey's End, after so many Fatigues as I cannot express, some robb'd of their Camels, others of their Goods, and many of their poor wretched Cloaths; for tho' of so little Value, they stripp'd them naked, with wonderful Quickness and Inhumanity. It pleas'd God they reach'd none of our Gang, and being convinc'd that there was

Caravan
assaulted by
300 Rob-
bers.

no more Booty to be got without imminent Danger, they went away with what they had, leaving us melancholy and fearful, lest they should return stronger. By good Fortune, the greatest Part of what they stole, consisted of Camels and Dates, belonging to the *Amir*, who is Lord of that Country, of whom I have spoken before. A Servant of his, who had Charge of them, being much concern'd at this Misfortune, resolv'd to go to them; and having secur'd himself and his Horse, by a certain Oath and Ceremony us'd among the *Arabs* in such Cases, and religiously observ'd, he went to them, and understood that the Robbers were of two *Hords*, or *Tribes*, the one of *Ebenkaiz*, and the other of *Eben Rabyah*. Those of the latter were commanded by a Brother in Law to that very Servant of the *Amir*, who seeing him, and considering what had happen'd, was very much concern'd; and being about to restore the Camels, for there was no returning the Dates, which had all been distributed in a Moment, those of the other *Tribe* would not consent to it. They fell to Blows about it, and those of *Eben Rabyah* got the better, from whom they took some Spears, and most of the Camels, which being deliver'd to the *Amir's* Servant, he return'd with them to his Company. Upon his Return, the Galls that lay scatter'd about the Ground were pick'd up, the best that cou'd be; for as soon as those Robbers have taken a Camel, they rip up the Sack the Loading is in, and if it be Cloathing, or any other thing for their Turn, they carry him away loaded, if not, they leave the Load and carry away the Camel, which is what they value most. Thus we waited till the Afternoon, when as I have said, the *Mahometan* return'd, and we stay'd there that Night, to put Things in Order, Two *Arabian* Merchants, Father and Son, being both of them wounded with Spears. That Place is call'd *Garra* or *Serige*. We kept good Watch all the Night, and I being upon it in our Quarters, near Midnight, heard some mighty hasty Groans, towards the farther Part of the *Caravan*, which alarm'd the whole Company: The Occasion was, that a Thief at Night, slyly getting into the *Caravan*, made up to some Camels, and having untied one to carry him off, was discover'd, and being forc'd to fly, would not go without some Booty, and laying hold on a *Mahometan* Merchants Turbant, who lay asleep close by, ran away with it. The Merchant waking, made that Noise, which avail'd him very little. Such Tricks the *Arabs* often play, and sometimes they prove costly.

Thursday the 10th at Sun Rising, the *Caravan* advanc'd Northward, over good Land, tho' not plain. We march'd all that Day without ceasing, and having travell'd 8 Leagues, encamp'd

Garra or
Serige
Manfel.

Drahem
Hill.

Lake of
Salt.

Ruins of
Christian
Structures.

a little before Sun Set, because it began to rain, not that it was much, but by reason it made the Camels slip and fall, which oblig'd us to lie there all Night. That Place is call'd *Drahem*, the Name of a Fort formerly erected on a Hill hard by, which still retains that Denomination. There was no Water, and the great Want of it oblig'd us to go for it two Leagues off, upon Asses by Night, with much Dread; however it was brought, and we quench'd our Thirst, which had fatigued us very much. In this Place came up to us an *Armenian*, whose Name was *Jacob*, whom we had known at *Bagdat*, whence he came 16 Days before on Horseback, going for *Aleppo*, stay'd with us there that Night, and bore us Company the next Day, telling some News that diverted us, and made the Journey easier. Friday the 11th the *Caravan* march'd from *Drahem*, over excellent Land, for a good Space, till we came to the Point of a Mountain, by which we pass'd, call'd by the *Arabs*, *Cornu Zebad*, that is, *The Point of Civet*, or the *Civet Cat*, which is generally a *Mansel* or *Resting Place* for *Caravans*. Being come to this Point, we soon discover'd other Mountains on our Left, along the Foot whereof we went rounding a very great Lake, call'd *Gebul*, above 30 Leagues in Compass, and form'd by the Water of a Spring, rising in a Town there is on the other Side of it, and the Spring is nam'd *Ahen dahab*, that is, *The Golden Source* or *Spring*, for the great Value of its Water, which joins with the Rain in that spacious Place, and by its Nitrous Quality and Disposition makes it Salt, and in Summer the Heat of the Sun turns it almost all into Salt, so hard that it may be pass'd over either on Foot or on Horseback. It belongs to the *Grand Signior*, who farms it for a great Sum of Money, whence it is carry'd to *Aleppo* and other Parts. Holding on our Way, we came into narrow dangerous Passes, between the Lake and the Mountains, and some so slippery with the Rain, and difficult, that several Camels fell, and cost much Trouble to be got up, and what still made worse for us, it rain'd and was very cold and foggy. By the Way we saw the Ruins of some Towns, and some Houses standing, but empty, and on the Top of a high Mountain, the Foundations and Part of a great and curious Structure which appear'd to have been a Church; for all these Parts were inhabited by Christians. We halted not all the Day, and at Sun Setting came to a desert Village, call'd *Acha*, seated at the Foot of a pleasant Hill, in a delightful Plain on the Bank of the same Lake. It contain'd about 100 small Houses, but well built of unburnt Brick, all of them vaulted in the Shape of Pyramids; some of them founded on wrought Stones, the Ruins of another Town of more Note that stood there. They had been abandon'd

bandon'd by their Inhabitants, who are great Knaves and Robbers, and were gone for fear of others greater than themselves; to a Place 2 or 3 Leagues off. On the North Side of it is a never failing Spring of very good Water. Here we took up at Night, having travell'd 7 Leagues this Day.

Saturday the 12th after Sun-rising we set out to the Northward, along the Bank of the Lake, over excellent Land, with great Mountains or Lakes from 2 to 4 Leagues Distance from us. Having gone about 3 Leagues, we pass'd through a Town of about 300 Houses, built like those before, but larger, founded on the Ruins of another of more Consequence, as appears by the Remains of it. The Name of it is *Melhuah*, that is, *Salt Town*; for *Mel* in Arabick signifies Salt, from the great Quantity of it there made and taken out of the Lake. About a Mile farther we pass'd through another Town of about 120 Houses like the last, call'd *Safyra*. Two Leagues beyond that we met with a small Stream of pure clear Water, flowing from 2 Springs, over which we pass'd, call'd *Ahen Macuba*, that is, *The Springs of the Rushy Grounds*, because there are some thereabouts. Not far from hence we came to a Town call'd *Tal Aron*, that is, *The Hill of Thorns*, because it is at the Foot of such an one, and contains about 300 Houses, like those before-mention'd, but larger and more tightly. We were here inform'd, that at *Gehrahin*, a large Town, thro' which we were to pass this Day, there were 300 *Seppimen* Musketters, who being at Variance with the *Bassa* of *Aleppo*, had withdrawn thither, bidding us to look to our selves. Hereupon, fearing some Mischief must befall us if we fell into their Hands, by unanimous Consent we very hastily cross'd over plow'd Lands, for about 2 Leagues, to strike out of that Road, and seek another, for fear they should see and pursue us; and being got into the Way again, follow'd it as far as one of the many Villages there are in those Fields, which they call *Tel Axarab*, where the *Caval* we took up, because the Camels were very much tir'd. This was about 4 in the Afternoon, and those of our Gang considering how much of the Day still remain'd, how little Safety there was against the Mutineers, and that the City was but 3 Leagues off, we resolv'd not to stop till we came to it. This being join'd by some others, among whom were 8 armed Men and 26 Camels, we held on our Way towards *Aleppo* on Foot, travelling hand, and with our Arms in our Hands, especially after we were got in among the Gardens, which extend 2 Leagues without the City, and made such haste, that we enter'd the Place at Sun-setting, having travell'd above 9 Leagues this Day, being just a Year and a Day since I set sail from the Bar of *Goa*, and just 2

Melhuah.

Safyra.

Tal Aron.

Tel Axarab.

Arrival at Aleppo.

Months since my Departure from *Bagdad*. We proceeded thro' the City to about the Middle of it, where we took up in a *Khan*, in which 2 *Venetian* Merchants liv'd, to one of which, whose Name was *John Baptist Bagozzi*, the Goods my Comerade brought were consign'd; who having put them up there, went away to lodge with one *John Dominick Ruspiny* his Friend, desiring *Bagozzi* to lodge me, till he could provide for me, which he and his Companion did, giving me a Bed by my self, very decent and convenient, and treating me so affectionate and courteously for 2 or 3 Days I stay'd there, that I was very much oblig'd; but this is a frequent Practice among those *Venetian* Gentlemen towards Strangers.

C H A P. XI.

Of the City of Aleppo.

Aleppo or
Hhaleb.

A Aleppo, so call'd by the Christian Franks, *Armenians*, and *Greeks*, and by the *Moors* and *Turks*, *Hhaleb*, is the same City formerly by the *Jews* nam'd *Aram Sobah*, Capital of the Province of *Comagena* in *Syria*. It is a Town of very great Antiquity, seated between 4 Hills, and taking up some Part of them. It enjoys a temperate Climate and pure Waters; for besides those brought to it by Aqueducts from the *Euphrates*, which is 2 Days Journey distant, and are distributed throughout the City, into many publick and private Fountains, some of them of curious Workmanship; it is wash'd round by the River *Singa*, by the Natives call'd *Kikan*, and by the *Hebrews*, *Kikanos*, which improving the natural Goodness of the Soil, renders it extraordinary fruitful, and therefore for a considerable Space about, it is beset with Gardens and Orchards, forming a pleasant and delightful Prospect by their Number and various Situations. However it is sometimes subject to the Plague, whether occasion'd by the Air of the Country, or brought from other Nations trading thither, among which are *Venetians*, *French*, and *English*, of whom I shall speak here after.

Singa River.

Suburbs.

Within the Walls its Figure is round, and they are ancient, built after the *Moorish* Manner; but without them the Suburbs are longer and larger than the City within. The whole City is divided into 45 Wards, 20 whereof are within the Walls, and the other 25 much greater without, which at the Ends of them have

have some Sort of Works and Gates. It may contain in all 26000 Houses, handsomely built, generally of Stone, well wrought, but some in particular as spacious, curious, and costly as can be imagin'd. Nor are only those of the *Turks* and *Moors* such, but even some of those belonging to *Jews*, and *Greeks*, and *Armenian* Christians are so noble, that they may serve to entertain Princes. There are 300 *Mosques* in *Aleppo*, 7 whereof are magnificent Structures, the Roofs of most of them and those of almost all the *Alcorans*, some whereof are wonderful stately, cover'd with Lead, and most of those Structures being vaulted, and shap'd like Domes, it makes them very beautiful to behold.

There are in the City several *Khans*, of those I said before were like the Cloisters of Monasteries, where Merchants Strangers lie with their Goods, and there the Natives keep theirs, because they are strong and safe Buildings, all of Stone, with great Gates, and massive Iron Chains, and in the midst of them, and at the Gates of some *Mosques*, curious clean Marble Fountains, with Plenty of good Water, some whereof for the more Neatness have Brass Cocks, that may run no more than is necessary, and the rest is convey'd away by subterraneous Passages.

There is a Royal Hospital, endow'd with a great Revenue, tho' the Officers do not furnish it so well as the Prince expects, a Fault too common in other Places, where Christian Charity should be more prevalent. There are several *Succos*, that is, *Market Places* or *Squares*, all shut up, built with Stone and vaulted, very strong and handsome, full of Shops of all Sorts.

In the midst of the City, the Streets whereof are all pav'd with Marble, is a high Hill, equally divided on all Sides from every Part of the City, as round as a Heap of Corn, on which stands a Fort, which the *Mahometan* and *Jewish* Tradition says was founded by *Joab*, *David's* General; but it may be suppos'd to have been afterwards improv'd. They also affirm the Patriarch *Abraham* resided some time on that same Place, and his Charity they tell us, gave Name to it and the Town; because the Holy Man us'd to distribute some of the Milk of his Cows among the Needy, who being us'd to it, came at the proper Hour for their Portion, and when they came, said *Hhaleh*, which in the *Syrian* Tongue signifies, *Have they milk'd?* From which Question the Name was given to the Place. I write what was there told me by many.

To return to the Castle, the Situation of it is naturally strong, and by what is still to be seen, it seems to have been help'd by Art; yet at present it is not so tenable as it might be; for tho' it overlooks the City, and has some Canon, and there is round the

Houses.

Mosques.

Khans.

Hospital.

Fort built by Joab.

- the Hill a broad and deep Ditch, full of Water, with a Bridge over it, the Walls are not very strong, and the Contrivance is mean; besides that it has no Water but a Well, and that rather salt than brackish. An *Aga*, with a Company of *Janizaries* generally resides in it, and the *Bassa* lives below in the City. Within the Castle they coin Gold and Silver; the Silver Money call'd *Kays*, ten whereof make a Piece of 8, and *Madines*, 5 of which go to a *Kay*. This Mint, and the Customs were then farm'd by the *Jews*, and the Customs alone, by reason of the late War, yielded that Monarch 200000 *Chequines* clear yearly, and every *Chequine* is worth about 13 *Royals*.
- Mint.* The Tower is inhabited by Native *Mahometans* and *Turks*, and the two *Arabian* and *Turkish* Tongues are those generally us'd, tho' by reason of the Trade some speak *Italian*, *French*, *English*, and *Spanish*. Besides those *Mahometans* and *Turks*, several *Christians* live there as Natives, *Armenians*, *Maronites*, *Chaldeans*, and *Greeks*. There are also *Jews*, and of them about 1000 good Houses, in a separate Ward; but within the Walls, where they have a great Synagogue, which they affirm was built 1500 Years since, and is still standing. Many of them are rich, most Merchants, the rest Brokers and Handycrafts, as Goldsmiths, Lapidaries, and the like. There are about 1500 Houses of Native *Christians*, almost all of them without the Walls, and there every Nation has its Church; but all near one another, small, poor, and of a mean Structure; and if a Stick or Stone of them drops out with Age, it must not be repair'd upon Pain of Death. They have their Secular Priests, who may marry, and Fathers of the Order of St. Gregory and St. Basil, who profess Chastity. They have also an *Armenian* Bishop, and he that presided in my time, was generally reputed of a Holy and Exemplar Life, and such I took him for, some times I discours'd with him.
- Inhabitants.* A *Bassa* has the Government of the City for no certain time, with a Garrison of 3000 *Janizaries*, besides other numerous Troops, especially *Sepahis*, whose new Invention and Numbers have very much eclips'd the Reputation of the *Janizaries* in those Parts. This *Bassa* is Supreme in Civil and Military Affairs.
- Jews.* There is a *Cady* who is Judge in Civil and Criminal Matters, and both *Christians* and *Mahometans* assur'd me, that he who then serv'd the Place, besides being an excellent Philosopher, was extraordinary upright in the Administration of Justice.
- Christians.* The Spiritual Government is in one they call *Mufti*, answerable to a Bishop with us, and among them a Place of great Honour and Authority. When I came thither, this Dignity was possess'd by a Brother to that *Mahometan* my Friend. I mention'd speaking

speaking of the Cure of his Camel's Foot, who went before another Way from *Mexat Ocem*, without any *Caravan*, and being come to *Aleppo* long before us, and inform'd of my Arrival, found me out immediately, visited me several times very lovingly whilst I stay'd there, sending me very choice Presents, always offering to serve me upon Occasion; and thus convincing me how advantageous it is to do Good, without Respect of Persons; since for some little Service I had done him, when it was in my Power, I found so much Favour from him in a Place, where it might have stood me in Stead, had I needed it.

The People are generally fair and beautiful; and tho' the Women keep their Faces cover'd in the Street with a Sort of Gauze; so that they can see without being seen; yet the Beauty of the Children is an Argument of theirs. They generally are well dress'd, as are the Men, most of whom ride about on Horseback. There are many curios and cleanly Baths about the City. All Necessaries for Life are very plentiful except Fish, because it is remote from the Sea; and yet I have seen *Venetian* Gentlemen make extraordinary splendid Entertainments of it, brought from *Sconderon*. At the time I was there all things were dear, because it had endur'd a close Siege for a long time, laid by the *Bassa* then governing, who coming with the *Grand Signior's* Commission, was refus'd Admittance by his Predecessor, for a Politick Reason, which was not out of the Way. He alledg'd that the Person appointed to succeed him, had Lands of his own close by, and it was not therefore convenient for his Master to give him that Government so near them, so that if he had granted him that Post, it must be because he was not rightly inform'd, for which reason he would not resign, till his Sovereign had a true Account. However, he was at last oblig'd to quit upon a second Order, and went away to *Constantinople*, carrying with him, as I was inform'd by Persons of Credit, 300000 *Ducats*, or *Chequines* which amount to more, all gotten in two Years he had been Governour there.

The *Franks* trading there being *Venetians*, *French*, and *English*, live in *Khanis*, for the greater Security of their Persons and Goods, and each of these Nations has its Consul, who is Chief, to decide Controversies among them, and treat with the *Bassa* in all things that are for the Advantage of his Country; for which purpose he has a *Druggerman* or *Interpreter*, maintain'd at the publick Cost. In my time there were 14 Families of *Venetians*, besides the Consul's. Every Family besides Servants has two Heads, one to serve in the Absence of another; and if the first dies, or goes away, the second succeeds him, which I thought a good Method to keep up the Commerce without Interruption. The Trade of

Beautiful
Women.

Turkish
Policy.

Europe-
ans at A-
leppo.

Vene-
tians.

of this Nation there is worth between a Million, and a Million and a half of Gold Yearly, sent from *Venice* in 5 or 6000 Pieces of Woollen Cloth, about as many of Silk and Brocade, Abundance of Cochineal, and the rest in Plate. The Returns are Raw Silk, Indigo, Galls, Cotton Raw and Spun, Cinnamon, Cloves, Nutmegs, Mace, Pistachoes, precious Stones, Seed Pearl, Gold Coin, and other Commodities. From all this Stock they deduct so much *per Cent*, for a Bank they call *Cotimo*, which is to pay an Apothecary, a Surgeon and Chaplains, these being *Franciscan* Friars, who are very well furnish'd, having a Chappel in a *Khan*, where the Merchants meet to hear Mass and Sermons. It also serves to defray the Presents made to the *Bassa*, and other Officers, the *Druggerman's* Salary, and the Expence of three Expresses sent together every Month, by the Way of *Constantinople*, that in Case one or two fail, the third may go through. In short, the Consul's Expences in three Years, for so long they commonly hold the Place, amount to between 60 and 80000 Ducats or *Chequines*, which are not disburs'd without the Consent of the Merchants, who Ballot after the *Venetian* Manner. The Consul is always a Gentleman, and the Guardian of the Friars a Man of Note, who has Power from the Pope to absolve in all Cases reserv'd, provided it be not falsifying of Bulls and Letters. This is the Form and Method observ'd by the *Venetians* residing there, who live great and splendid, behaving themselves nobly; from several of whom I receiv'd many Favours during my Stay, and it is usual with them to do the same by all Strangers they have a good Account of.

French.

The *French* also have their Consul, and the Person appointed to it for Life by the King, stays in *France*, and sends one over in his stead, who pays him near 3000 Ducates a Year for it. This Man has also his Chappel in his House or *Khan*, and a Chaplain to say Mass, where some of them go to hear it. There were five Families of them residing there in my time, but the Number of those that go and come is much greater than that of the *Venetians*. The *French* Trade may amount to 800000 Ducats, of which they pay 4 *per Cent*, besides the *Turk's* Duties, that is, two for the Consul, and two more for the *French* Ambassador, residing at *Constantinople*, and most of these 800000 Ducats go over in Plate. In other Particulars they are far short of the good Government of the *Venetians*. [The Reader is to observe, that since the Author's Time, the *French* Trade is vastly improv'd, as is the *English*, and there are many Alterations in other Particulars, but it is worth knowing how things were then, and how they are at present shall appear by latter Accounts from those Parts, which are

are to follow this.] The French Consul has a particular Privilege from the Turk, of protecting any Foreign Christian, that is not of those Nations allow'd to Trade there, and any such under his Shadow, enjoy the same Immunities as the French, which is made use of by some Flemmings and Luqueses, to trade there. There were three Families of English, with their Consul, who is a Merchant, and their Trade might amount to 300000 Ducats, little of it being in Money, but Cloths, Kerseys, Lead, Tin, Copper, Arms and the like. Five or six Venetian Ships were employ'd Yearly in that Commerce; two or three English; and above twenty French. There were also two Families of Dutch, trading to the Value of 150000 Ducats, which is always to taken for the Common amount, for sometimes it may be more, and sometimes less.

English

Dutch.

This City is 80 Leagues from the Mediterranean, and all that goes or comes by Sea, is Shipp'd off, and landed at the Port of *Alexandretta*, which the Turks and Moors call *Scanderone*. The greatness of the Trade of these Nations in that Place, may be understood by this Particular, that only the Hire of the Camels to fetch and carry Goods to and from the Port, tho' generally very reasonable, rises to at least 80000 Chequines a Year, which is near 90000 Ducats; a Sum I should have doubted of, had I not computed it very particularly with some of those Gentlemen, for my own Satisfaction.

Hire of
Camels at
Aleppo.

They weave Abundance of good Silks at *Aleppo*, and in the Country about it very much hard white Soap is made, great Quantities whereof are exported to several Parts. For common Use they have very neat Copper Vessels tinn'd, and the poorer Sort of Earthen Ware, whereof much Plenty is there made, but not fine. They have also Glass enough made in the adjacent Towns, indifferent Good. There are very curious Coffee Houses, remarkable for Structure and Ornament, set out with many Lamps, because the greatest Resort is usually at Night, tho' they are also sufficiently frequented by Day. There are also publick Places to exercise the Bow and Musket, and riding, for every Saturday in the Afternoon, Abundance of Men go out into the Fields a Horse back, sometime 1000 strong, exercising themselves by Skirmishing with Reeds, instead of Spears.

Manu-
factures.Coffee
Houses.

Exercise.

Every Year after the *Ramadan*, which is the *Mahometan* Lent, a Caravan sets out from *Aleppo* for *Mecca*, which joins another at *Damascus*, and thence they travel together. When I was there, one went off on the 4th of *March*, and it was wonderful to see the great Concourse of People, and with what Pleasure and Applause the infinite Numbers of Men, Women

Caravan
of Mecca.

and Children, of all Ages and Conditions, attend those that are going two Miles out of Town. The *Bassa* himself, the *Musfy*, and all the great Men went out to bear them Company, and there was a curious mock Skirmish with Reeds, and much Musick, all out of Zeal for their false Religion, for they believe their Sins are forgiven for accompanying those Pilgrims going to *Mecca* or *Medina*. In this *Caravan* there were near 3000 Camels, and many Horses, besides a great Number of other Beasts of Burden. It contain'd about 800 Men, Women and Children, a vast Quantity of Commodities, and a greater of Money, which is thence sent to *India*.

Gates.

The City of *Aleppo* has 10 Gates, which are all shut at Night, and at one of them, that is under a Tower, is a dark Hollow, or Recess, grated before, and with a Tomb, held in great Veneration by the *Mahometans*, with Lamps and Candles continually burning about it. The *Franks* call that *St. George's Gate*, and some think his Body lyes in that Place, because the *Mahometans* say, that is a holy Knight, but it is most likely to be some one of their own, held in that Repute. Four Days Journey from *Aleppo*, that is, two to the River *Euphrates*, and two from it up in *Mesopotamia*, is the most ancient City *Orsa*, formerly call'd *Ur*, where the *Chaldeans* would have burnt *Abraham*, and there is a Place in it to this Day bearing that Name, and held in great Veneration. They there shew a Spring, whose Water breeds good Fish, to eat whereof is reckon'd a Sacrilege; because they say it sprung miraculously, to quench the Fire they would have burnt the Holy Patriarch in. Within this Town is a Well, which they affirm is the same, of whose Water *Rebecca*, whom they call *Rafka*, gave *Abraham's* Servant and his Camels to Drink, when he went to seek a Wife for *Isaac*. I will conclude with *Aleppo*, where I have made too long a Stay, and return to my Journey in the next Chapter, and conclude this, declaring that the Country is good, tho' scarce of Wood; but the People wicked, and not at all affable.

Orsa the
City Ur.

CHAP.

CHAP. XII.

My Journey from Aleppo to Scanderone, with the Description of the Country and that Place.

I Had been near 2 Months at *Aleppo*, waiting for a Ship to carry me to *Venice*, for they are not to be met with at all times; when we were inform'd that one, which was then loading at *Scanderone*, had near taken in all it was to carry from that Port. Upon this Intelligence, we who design'd to take our Passage in her, made ready, and having provided all Necessaries, departed that City on *Holy Tuesday*, the 5th of *April*, 1605, having join'd Company with 2 *Venetian* Gentlemen, which were *Peter dal Ponte* and *Dominick Calagary*, from whom I receiv'd many Favours, both at *Aleppo* and during our Voyage. *James de Melo* went also with us, as did several other *Frankes*, who were not of our particular Gang, all designing for *Venice* in the same Ship. We left the City at 4 in the Afternoon, attended by all the *Venetian*, and most of the *French* Nation, of whom we took leave in loving Manner, at a Village 2 Miles distant, that being the Boundary of such Courtesy, they shewing a Concern, proceeding from their Goodness, worthy my perpetual Remembrance, and laying on me an Obligation not to be requited. We travell'd thence to the Northward, and passing by many Villages, lay that Night in one call'd *Nihil*, well pleas'd but ill accommodated. This Place is 4 or 5 Leagues from the City.

Departure
from Alep-
po.

Wednesday the 6th we were going before Break of Day, between uncooth, stony, and barren Mountains, along which we saw the Ruins and Remains of several ancient Towns and Castles, and of some Churches. Thus we held on till Noon, when we came down from the Mountain to a deep but spacious Plain, where we alighted to rest a while and eat a Bit, for we had not yet broke our Fast; but the Place being without Shelter, made us soon break up and go on. We cross'd a River of good clear Water, call'd *Afrin*, about 70 Paces over, running East and West, fordable in some Places, and so we almost all of us pass'd it on Horseback. A He Mule passing last, that carry'd my Bed and a Basket belonging to *James de Melo*, mis'd the Ford, all the Loading was wet, and the Beast had like to be drown'd. *James de Melo* had some Papers in the Basket, which he said were of Consequence, and seeing them in the Water, he ran up roaring

and crying they were worth mighty Matters. The *Venetian* Gentlemen, as being well acquainted with the Country, had hir'd 2 *Segmens* at *Aleppo*, one of them an Officer and the other his Brother, to bear us Company to *Scanderone*, because there is little Safety in travelling that Country, especially for *Christian Franks*, without such a Guard. One of these seeing *James de Melo* so much concern'd, leap'd into the Water, and took more Pains for the Basket than he ought to have done, since it caus'd us as much Trouble as we enjoy'd Satisfaction before; for the *Segmen* having fetch'd the Basket out of the Water, said the Owner of it had declar'd it was worth 10 or 12000 Ducats, and therefore he would be paid for his Labour accordingly. There was a long Debate and much Uneasiness about it, which was at last compounded for Money, that being the ready Remedy in all Places for such Evils, when rightly apply'd. We were afterwards inform'd, that the Chief of the *Segmens* had said at *Aleppo*, that 20 Ducats we gave him for conducting us were too little; but he would find some Opportunity by the Way to advance his Wages, and so it prov'd; for the Controversy yielded him above as much more. I was not surpriz'd at that manner of Proceeding, remembering I had seen greater Wrongs, by some People in our Parts.

When this Controversy was adjust'd, we held on our Way, and went to pass that Night in a very spacious Meadow, where a great Number of Horses were grazing; the *Turks* using to put theirs to Grass in the Spring, before they take the Field. We settled by 2 Streams of Water, the one Sulphurous, the other Fresh and perfectly Good, and yet there were not above 4 Paces Distance between them, keeping a good Guard all Night. *Thursday* the 7th we got up two Hours before Day, travelling over very good Land, to others Uneven and Mountainous; after which follow'd some Boggy, and the Water there is on it breeds much Fish, look'd upon as unwholesome; and in the Fields there are Abundance of wild Boars, which not being eaten by those People, are not hunted, and consequently multiply very much. Next we came into another very spacious Plain, which we cross'd, in Sight of a very long Chain of excessive high Mountains, and passing over 2 Stone Bridges, built upon necessary Passes, the one of good running Water, and the other of Mud and Mire, came at Noon to rest us under the Shade of the Wall of another great and stately one, call'd *The White Bridge*, giving Name to the River that runs under it, the Breadth whereof is about 50 Paces, but deeper than the other before, tho' not so pure and clear. Both of them breed good Fish. Having rested there till two in the Afternoon, we cross'd over the remaining Part of the Plain, till

Bridges.

till about half an Hour after 4 we began to go up the Mountain. Before I go any farther, I must declare in a few Words, that I know not what was most observable in the Way we travell'd so far this Day, whether the Position, the Goodness of the Soil, the Prospect, the Variety of Flowers, their Fragrancy, the Diversity of Birds, and Sweetness of their Notes, the Springs, the Rivers, the Lakes, or the Beasts that were grazing. It was then Spring, the Climate temperate, the Air serene, the Land fruitful, whence any one may infer, how much Satisfaction the Eyes and other Senses must receive, and how much Occasion there was to praise God. We began as I was saying, to ascend the Mountain, which is no way inferior to the Plain; for it is full of Springs, and Streams to Admiration, and cover'd with Lawrels, Myrtles, Planes, Olive, Fig, Almond, *Pistacho*, Pine, and Beech-Trees, besides a thousand Sorts of Herbs and Flowers, the Sight and Scent whereof make the Fatigue of the Ascent the more easy, tho' of it self it be painful, by reason of its great Height and Steepness. The Tops were bury'd in deep Snow, and being so lofty girt round by the Clouds, over which their Heads reach'd, and among the Brakes, which are many and dangerous, there are some Vales of good grazing Land. Travelling up the Mountain, we had a full Prospect of all those Plains and what was in them, as if they had been lay'd down in a Landskip, and discover'd that the two Rivers, the Springs, and Streams we had pass'd by, ran all to form a Lake, which I judg'd might be 5 or 6 Leagues in Compass, lying near a Hill, on which the City of *Antioch* once stood, and the Ruins still are. We went up the Mountain, till half an Hour past 6 in the Afternoon, when meeting with a gentle Stream, fit for our Purpose, we stay'd there all Night.

*Delicious-
ness of the
Country.*

*Ruins of
Antioch.*

On *Good Friday*, being the 8th of *April*, we were stirring two Hours before Day, and having gone up Hill an Hour longer, the Way sometimes good and sometimes bad, began to descend again to the Northward, and towards Break of Day came to a Town, seated on the Sides of a large Brake, and call'd *Bilan*, whence the Name is communicated to all the Mountain, therefore call'd *Gibel Bilan*, that is, *The Mountain of Bilan*. This Situation is not so good as others about it, and yet with the Help of Water, which rising on the Top of the Mountain, falls and spreads all over, it produces all things as well as if the Soil were of the best. The Quantity of Water is so great, that tho' it be divided by Art into 7 Streams, each of them has as much as makes a handsome Current, besides that which is convey'd into a Receptacle, and runs thence through 3 great Pipes into a Pool, all of curious clean Stone Work, the Waste whereof makes a Stream, which

Bilan

Town.

which at 5 or 6 Paces distance, falls down a Brake, into a common Privy built over it, with three distinct Rooms and Doors, the cleanliest, most curious, and best fitted after their Manner, of any I ever saw among the *Mahometans*. There is in the Town a large *Khan*, handsomely built with Lime and Stone, serving to lodge the *Caravans*, when they are benighted there. Here is also a Coffee-House, another belonging to the *Cadi*, and some others, as also a *Mosque*, with an *Alcoran*, all of them of Stone. Besides which there were near 400 little Houses, without any upper Rooms, all flat roof'd, containing only one Chamber, built with small Stone, Clay, and Earth. This Town was much ruin'd and half unpeopled, by the frequent passing of the *Segmen* Soldiers; for wheresoever Soldiers come, tho' never so regular and well disciplin'd, they do more Mischief than Locusts. We stay'd there no longer than till the Mules came up with the Baggage, which was about half an Hour, and then continued going down the Mountain, which the lower we went was the better Land, and look'd more pleasant. It was Morning, and the fresh Air spreading abroad the Fragrancy of the Flowers, and the Noise of the Waters falling down the Brakes, moving the Nightingales and other Birds to sing, we could scarce be sensible of the Fatigue of Travelling. Thus diverting our Toil with reflecting on such Variety of things as occur'd to the Sight, we got to the Bottom of the Mountains, and enter'd upon the Plain, being in Sight of the *Mediterranean*, and of the Ships along the Shore of *Scanderone*, in a Bay ending there, between *Comagena*, which is Part of *Syria*, and the Lands and Mountains of *Caramania*, that was opposite to us Northward, about 10 Leagues distant. At our entring upon the Plain, there rush'd out of an Ambush on us 5 Horsemen with Spears, appearing to be *Turks* by their Habit and the Language they spoke to us in, who frighted us sufficiently, but were soon known to be *Venetian* Merchants residing there, Friends and Correspondents to those we went with, and having Notice of our coming, met and kept us Company to their Houses; so that our Surprise was turn'd into double Satisfaction. After a Friendly Salutation, we cross'd over the Plain, which is for the most part Fenny, and therefore very unhealthy, to the Shore, where the Port of *Scanderone* is, so call'd by the *Turks*, and by the *Franks* *Alexandretta*, which is the same thing. Here formerly stood a Town, inclos'd with strong Walls of Lime and Stone, some Remains whereof are still extant, with the Ruins of Houses within them. A thousand Stories are told of this Town, which I pass by as uncertain and of little Moment. At length we came to the Shore, where are some Houses belonging to *Franks*, living

Scanderone Port.

living there for the Conveniency of Trade, which formerly was convey'd to *Aleppo*, 80 Miles distant hence, from *Tripoli* in *Syria*, whence upon some Differences with the *Bassas*, the Christians retir'd to this Place, about 15 Years since, yet like it not very well, because of the Inconveniency of carrying their Goods so far by Land. Here are some few Timber Houses, either cover'd with Boards, or thatch'd, except 3, which are of Lime and Stone, flat roof'd, and on the Top of one of them are 2 or 3 Brass Guns, wherewith they sometimes defend themselves against any roving Scoundrels that pretend to molest them. Among those Houses there are 2 Churches, the one of the *Latin Franks*, serv'd by an *Italian Franciscan Friar*; the other of the *Greeks*, under a Religious *Greek Caloyer*. Three Vice-Consuls reside there, the *Venetian*, the *French*, and the *English*, subordinate to their Consuls at *Aleppo*. This is the Bay of *Layaza*, describ'd by *Ariosto* in his 10th *Canto*, and there are still the two Castles, one to the Northward, at the Foot of the Mountain the Sea beats against, now almost ruin'd; the other to the Southward, still entire; these forming the Points of the Half Moon the Port did, and now does represent; tho' the Sea having thrown up Sand on the Shore, that on the South is at some Distance from the Water. It is call'd the Gulf of *Layaza*, taking the Name from a Town and Port that bears the same Denomination, of very great Antiquity, which is opposite to it, on the Coast of *Caramania*. There is a great Resort of Ships to this Port, for besides the *Venetian*, *French*, and *English*, coming to it, there are abundance of *Caramanials*, being Vessels very like the *Portuguese Caravels*, coming from *Egypt*, *Alexandria*, *Tripoli*, *Cyprus*, *Candia*, *Constantinople*, and several other Ports, with Merchandise and Provisions. Here we kept *Easter*, which was on the 10th of *April*, with very much Satisfaction, and the Ship only waiting for us, as soon as it was over we embark'd, as shall be said in the following Chapter.

Layaza Bay.

C H A P. XIII.

Our Departure from Scanderone, and Arrival at Cyprus.

ON *Tuesday* the 12th of *April* we embark'd in a *Venetian* Ship that had been there 10 Months, being detain'd by the War at *Aleppo*; and had it sail'd at its proper Time, I must

Cape Can-
zir.

must have stay'd some Months longer for another, unless I would have gone on board a *French* or *English* Ship, some of which are always there; but that was not for my Purpose, because besides their being unsafe for Passengers, I had Business that oblig'd me to go to *Venice*. This Ship was call'd *La Rizada*, by reason the Owner was one *Francis Rizada*, a Citizen of *Venice*; she was above 500 Tun Burthen, this her first Voyage, well Arm'd and Officer'd, and carry'd 23 good Pieces of Brass Cannon. We set Sail at the End of the 2d Watch; but the Wind proving contrary, cast Anchor again immediately; and *Wednesday* the 13th weigh'd again in the Morning, plying about with a contrary Wind and calm, till on *Friday* Morning the Wind came a little to Eastward, somewhat favourable, with which we ran along the Coast of *Syria*, as far as *Cape Canzir*, or, *Of the Swine*, 70 Miles, or 24 Leagues distant from *Scanderone*, being all vast high Mountains, cover'd with Abundance of Snow, *Caramania* lying on our Right Hand, about 20 Miles from us, a Mountainous Country, whose Hills are inhabited by many Sorts of People. It was pleasant at Night to behold the many Fires they made about their Dwellings. There, on the Edge of the Sea, stands the Fort and Town of *Layaza* beforemention'd, formerly great, and now inconsiderable. The Wind did not serve as we stood, for which reason the Pilot tack'd, and we held this Course, till he guess'd we were between the Island of *Cyprus* and the Continent, and then steer'd to the Southward, which Rumb we held a Day and a Night. *Wednesday* the 20th in the Morning, we found the Point of the Island bore East of us, we being without it to the Southward, which was our right Course. Here the Wind came up fair, so that we ran all Day close by the Island, for the Port of *Salinas*. Being within 20 Miles of it, the Wind on a sudden veer'd about to Seaward, so that we could not put in till the next Day, being the 21th, at 11 in the Morning. The Wind being scant, we came to an Anchor with some Difficulty, near 3 Ships that were there before us, 2 of them *Venetians*, and the 3d *Dutch*, loading the common Commodity of the Country, which is Cotton, of which ours was to take in what she wanted.

Cyprus
Island.

They reckon 200 Miles from *Scanderone* to the nearest Point of this Island, which is above 280 in Length, and 700 about, being between 50 and 60 distant from *Caramania*, that lies North from it, and has no Port of any Note on that Side. The Land is not very Mountainous, but fruitful, and all it produces is very good, but yields not near so much at present, as it did to the *Venetians*, when they were Masters of it. Abundance of Cotton grows in it, whereof above 5000 Packs are exported every Year,

and

and each of them weighs at least 20 *Spanish Arrobas*, which is 500 Weight, besides 3000 Packs of fine Wool, for which the *Venetians* trade thither, and have a Consul there, as have the *English*, *French*, and *Flemings*. It yields some Silk, Sugar, very much good Wine, Abundance of Cheese, and other things, which formerly brought a good Trade to it; but it is much decay'd, since possess'd by the *Turks*. The Natives of it are *Greek Christians*, but after the *Greek Manner*. This is the only Place in which I saw Christians subject to the *Turk* wear Hats on their Heads; for in all other Parts I pass'd thro', they are only allow'd to wear a Cloath great Hood or Cap, generally lin'd with Furs or else a blue or strip'd blue Linnen wrapp'd about their Head; this for the *Greek*, and the *Armenians* red; and the *Jews* in some Places red and blue round Caps; but here nearer the Court, Murrey or Violet Colour Caps, almost like those the Secular Priests wear in *Portugal*, and this instead of the yellow Linnen Cloath they formerly wore. None of these Nations is allow'd to wear a white Turbant, but only the *Turks* and *Moors*, among whom the green is permitted to none but *Xarifes*, being the Descendants of *Mahomet*, whose peculiar Privilege that is to be known by, and if any other should presume to wear it, he would be severely punish'd. Such of these as cannot afford a green Turbant, may put a Bit of green Silk on the white one, so that no others may use green except Soldiers, for they are lawless.

To return to *Cyprus*, the Natives in their Tongue call it *Chipro*, as the *Portugueses* do; the *Italians* from the *La in Cipro*; the *Turks* and *Moors* *Kobros*; and hence the Gold *Cruzados* seem to be call'd in those Parts *Kobrosi*. On the South Side of it are some Ports, among which this of *Salinas* is the best, so call'd from the many Salt-Pits it has, whereof much is carry'd to *Venice*, on the States Account, for no private Person may carry any, and in the Freight of it is discounted the Loan of 10000 Ducats the *Seignior* or State allows to those that build any Ship of 500 Tun Burthen, or upwards. This Harbour tho' open, is good and deep. Great Ships anchor about half a League from Land, in 12 or 15 Fathom Water. The Capital Towns of the Island are *Nicosia* and *Famagosta*, now nothing like what they were; the rest of it is full of many Towns and Villages. When we came to this Port of *Salinas*, the *Bassa* of the Island was there, building a Fort on the Edge of the Sea, being apprehensive of some Descent from the Fleets of *Spain* and *Militia*, then in those Seas. The Fort was not large but strong, and well contriv'd to secure the Harbour. About half a League up the Country from the Port, is the Town of *Arniqua*, where the *Francks* trading

Product.

Inhabitants.

Turbants.

Cyprus Island.

Arniqua
thither Town.

thither reside, consisting of about 300 small Houses, flat roof'd, built with Stone and Clay; but appears to have been a very considerable Place before the *Turks* had it, and has still a square Stone Tower Standing, which now serves for an *Alcoran*, having belong'd to a Monastery of *St. Francis*, of the Cloister whereof there is still one Side, with the Columns and Cells, now serving for Cazerns, to quarter Soldiers. Opposite to it are the Ruins of a Palace, where the Magistracy resided.

Spaniards
not safe in
Turkey.

As soon as we came to an Anchor the *Venetian* Gentlemen landed, and *James de Melo* with them; but I stay'd aboard for more Safety; because *Spaniards* can never be so free in the *Turkish* Territories, being oblig'd, if they are wise to be always upon their Guard, and very cautious, for Fear of being known and falsely accus'd, especially such as cannot temporize and comply like that Gentleman. In short, his own Companions oblig'd him as soon as they were a shore, to return to the Ship, fearing he might be taken Notice of, for his Behaviour and bring them into Trouble, especially considering the *Bassa* was upon the Place, so that he went a shore no more. Two Days after they sent me a Note; importing, that if I pleas'd to partake of what little was there to be had, I might Land, they then expecting me on the Strand. I did so, and went with them to *Anniqua*, where we took up in the House of one *John Baptiste de Francisco*, their Friend, who entertain'd us during our Stay, with much Civility, Affection and Generosity. When they all met to speak with the *Bassa*, who was then on the Walls of the Fort he erected, I bore them Company, took particular Notice of the Work, and of the *Bassa's* Discourse, which by his Answers discover'd his ill Inclination.

Gold in
Cyprus.

The *Venetian* Gentlemen had a Chappel there, and for their Chaplain a *Franciscan* Frier, a Godly Religious Man, as appear'd by his Behaviour, who without any Desert of mine, merely out of his Goodness and Humanity, Express'd his Affection a thousand Ways to me whilst I staid, and at my Departure made me some Presents of Relicks and Refreshments out of a Garden he cultivated with his own Hands. Discouring with him upon several Matters, he told me, that upon the Information of the Natives, he had some times taken of the Earth of one certain Part of the Island, and extracted pure Gold from it, by melting, to a considerable Profit, asserting the Truth of it on the Faith of a Religious Man, and that the *Turks* knew nothing of it, nor would the Natives discover it to them. Which I verily believe on the Report of that Religious Man, who had no Advantage in telling me so.

On

On the Shore I saw several Heaps of a very fine Earth or Clay, of several Colours, Dark, Green and Red, dug in some Parts of the Island, whence they told me the Dutch carry'd it to the Low Countries for dying. The Land produces the true Turpentine Trees yielding excellent Turpentine. Here is much extraordinary good *Laudanum*, coming from certain Plants like wild Sage, and the way to gather it, is by running a straight Rope over them, to which the Gum flowing from them clings; for they say they wither and decay, if touch'd with the Hands, or any other Instrument. There is also a considerable Trade of Calamint, Opium, Agarick and Saffron, all brought from the Continent of *Caramania*, which produces them good and in Plenty. Tho' that Island is naturally fertile, plentiful and cheap, we found it very scarce and dear, by reason of a general Mortality there had been among Cattel, so that the Ground could not be till'd as it us'd to be. This Country is very hot in Summer, and the Sun hurtful, to such as are not us'd to it.

CHAP. XIV.

Our Departure from Cyprus, and Voyage as far as Zant.

When our Ship had taken in her Loading and was ready, we that were a shore went aboard, for those Gentlemen would not suffer me to return to the Vessel when once landed, till they went themselves. We embark'd on Sunday the first of May in the Afternoon, and sail'd on Monday the second, in the Morning Watch, when leaving the Port of *Salmas*, we met with uncertain Winds, rather contrary than favourable, till on the sixth Day of the Month in the Morning, we discover'd to the Northward very high Mountains of *Caramania*, all cover'd with Snow, opposite to *Cast. Roffa*, which is reckon'd half Way through. The same Day holding on our due Course Westward with a Levant Wind, we discover'd about the Length of the Island of *Rhodes*, near five in the Afternoon four Gallies. The Ship made ready, being well furnish'd with Canon and good Gunners, plenty of Ammunition and other Fire Arms. The Gallies were soon up with us, and tho' known to be of *Adalia*, the Master would not suffer them to come aboard, knowing that other *Venetian* Ships

Ships returning from *Syria*, as we did, had at other Times suffer'd from Christian Ships and Gallies, coming up as Friends. The Gallies made a Smoke, which was a Signal of Security, but being suspected of no good Design by their Manner of approaching, they oblig'd them to keep off. Which they perceiving pursu'd the Ship in a Line all the rest of the Day, right a Stern, firing at her in that time 24 Shot from their Long Head Guns, but without doing any Harm; being answer'd by 2 of 6 large Canon, we had a Stern. Night came on, the Wind stiffen'd, and held till Morning, during which Time we ran about 80 Miles, and the Sea was high, and yet, the Gallies chas'd us till Day, when the Sun rising, the Wind calming, and being near us they slacken'd Sail, which they had not done before, and made another Signal, and were answer'd. Then taking a better Method, they sent a Boat aboard with a Knight of *Malta*, and the Commodore's Pilot in her, who having ask'd Leave, were admitted. They desir'd the Purser would go speak with the Commodore of the Gallies, who could not, because he was Sick, but sent his Mate, as those Ships generally have. He there made his Excuse, alledging they did not know the Gallies, and had Orders not to trust any, because of the Frauds and Deceits practis'd by the *Turkish* and *Moorish* Pirates, as was true enough. This, and a small Present sent him, of Pistachoes and Wash Balls satisfy'd him, and he gave us Notice of some Corsairs there were in that Sea, and particularly of a great Ship commanded by one *Spinola*, a *Genaeze*, and Knight of *Malta*, who had fitted out in *Sicily*, whence Ships frequently go out a roving, against the Consent of their Order. *James de Melo* stay'd in those Gallies, having been aboard the Ship till then, and went away disgusted.

Candia
Island.

Friday the 13th, we discover'd the Island *Scarpantus*, and the next Day the Easternmost Headland of *Candia*, which is 60 Miles from the City, and they reckon 400 from the Westernmost Point of *Cyprus* to this. We coasted along the South Side of this Island, at 20 Miles Distance, plainly discerning the famous Mount *Ida* and others of equal Height, all cover'd with Snow, with cross Winds, till the 23th of May, when we pass'd them. This Island is almost as big as *Cyprus*, has Harbours on both Sides, but more to the Northward, inhabited by *Greeks*, subject to the *Venetians* [They were so when the Author writ, but now to the *Turks*] who there keep a good Garrison, and daily fortify it more and more, fearing to lose it to the *Turks* as they did *Cyprus*. The Contrary Winds and Currents, put us so much from our Course, that we were almost drove upon *Barbary*; whence the Wind veering strongly to the West, we stood again to the Northward

ward for 3 Days, till on *Saturday* the 28th we made a small Island, about 5 Miles in Compass, call'd *Strival*, plain and without any other Habitation but a Monastery of *Caloyers* or *Greek Religious Men*, with some Cattel. It has good Water; and there the *Christian* and *Turkish* Gallies generally furnish themselves. As the Day clear'd up we spy'd the Island of *Zant* we steer'd for, being about 50 Miles North from the aforelaid small Island. We made up to, and rounding it on the East Side, cast Anchor in the Northern Port, at 6 in the Afternoon.

Strival Island.

Zant is 60 Miles in Compass, girt almost round with high Mountains, in the midst whereof is a most spacious Plain, all full of Vineyards, Olive Gardens, and Corn Fields, which last afford only 4 Months Provision, the rest being brought from abroad; for which Reason, the State of *Venice*, to whom the Island belongs, has always great Stores of Millet in it, to supply the People at any time of Want. It is almost incredible how much is exported from the Vineyards and Olive Gardens, considering the Narrowness of the Ground; for they every Year, one with another, make between 15 and 20000 *Arrobas*, that is, 200 or 250 Tun of Currants, 16 or 18000 Pipes of Wine, and above 500 of Oyl, and the Wine is extraordinary good; for which reason the Island is resorted to by *French*, *English*, and other Ships. The Air is not very healthy, but the Soil produces much excellent Fruit, green, wholesome and fragrant Flowers, and Abundance of Honey; yet it wants Wood, which is imported from abroad, nor has it Plenty of Fish. In the City and about it there is much Water, but the other Parts of the Island are scarce of it, and I was assur'd they moulded their Bread in some Places with Wine at times, for Want of Water; I did not see it, but was told so by Persons of Credit. It has 2 Harbours, the best of them on the North Side, where stands the chief Town, containing about 3000 Houses, built with Lime and Stone, and til'd, the Structure reasonable good, at the Foot of a high Mountain, on which is a Fort, where the Governour resides, a Place impregnable by Art and Nature, furnish'd with much good Cannon, a strong Garrison, and all other things requisite for its Defence. The Natives are *Greeks*, and among them in the City, there are about 30 or 40 Families of trading *Jews*, besides others dispers'd in the Towns and Villages, wherof the Island has some few, to one of which call'd *Gayeran*, I was carry'd one Day to see the Festival of a *Greek Saint*, resorted to by almost all the Inhabitants of the City, from which it is 3 Miles distant. As soon as we came into the Town, we found great Fires in the Streets, at which they were roasting between 3 or 400 whole sheep, whereof,

Zant Island.

Greek Festival.

whereof such as go to the Solemnity, buy to eat. Then the Men and Women of the City and other Places, join with those of this same Town, and dance to the Vocal Musick of one singing certain Verses, and all the Dances answering by way of Chorus. After which they have Tiltng and other pleasant Diversions. The other Harbour on the South Side, 5 Miles distant from this, crossing over the Plain, is call'd *Chery*, having a Town on it of the same Name, and near by a Lake, whence continually flows a great Quantity of a black thin Bitumen, like the *Naphtha* of *Babylon*. They also make Salt in the Island for their own Use, and some is exported. Those who trade here, besides the Product of the Country, export Silk, Wax, Hides, *Zafran*, Galls, and other Commodities, imported in considerable Quantities from the *Morea*, formerly call'd *Peloponnesus*, lying opposite to the Eastward, but 10 Miles distant, on one of whose Mountains appears a stately Castle, vulgarly call'd *Castel Torneze*. All that Country was conquer'd by the *Turks* (and is since recover'd by the *Venetians*).

The Night after we put into this Island, a *Turkish* Galley came into the Harbour, flying as they said from 2 *Christian* Gallies that had chas'd her; and the next Morning 7 arriv'd, belonging to the State of *Venice*, which were afterwards join'd by 3 more. As soon as the *Turkish* Galley was in the Harbour, Enquiry was made whether she was free or forsoit, and after many Debates they discharg'd her, so that she should immediately depart the Harbour; because it appear'd that the King of *Armenia* was going aboard her to *Constantinople*. Upon Summons from the *Grand Signior*, and yet most Men believ'd this was a Fraud. According to Articles between the *Turks* and *Venetians*, no Galley belonging to the former, may put into any Port, or sail in the Seas under the Dominion of the latter; and such as shall be found in them, may be lawfully made Prize, and if they make any Resistance, all the Men put to the Sword, provided it be done within 24 Hours after taken; for when that time is elaps'd, they may not kill any Prisoner nor detain him Captive, but they are bound to set them all at Liberty; and whoever shall do the contrary, is subject to be severely punish'd.

We stay'd aboard the next Night after our Arrival in the Port, and went all ashore the next Morning, where sho' we had Certificates of the healthy State of all the Ports we had been at, they made Difficulty enough to admit and give us Pratique; for the State of *Venice* is extraordinary nice in this particular; and as a special Favour, we were kept shut up in a Warehouse, whilst the Officers belonging to the Pratique, or to take Care that no Ships from Places infected be clear'd, consulted about us; and tho'

Agreement between
Turks and
Venetians.

Care to
prevent Infection.

tho' the Governour, the Proveditor of the Navy, and other Persons of Note, all Friends to *Peter dal Ponte* our Comerade, earnestly solicited on our behalf, we could not be dispatch'd till 3 in the Afternoon, when they declar'd us to be free, so strict are they in this Particular. I was amaz'd to see what Abundance of Presents and Refreshments were sent *Peter dal Ponte*, whilst we were shut up there; for tho' we were near 40 of us, and did nothing but eat and drink all the Day, there was enough left to give the Guards they had set over us, tho' we did not pay them, as is us'd among us. This Obstacle being remov'd, *Peter dal Ponte* taking me and *Dominick Caleyary* along with him, went to wait upon the Proveditor of the Navy, and then to the Governour at the Fort who both entertain'd him very Honourably and with extraordinary Affection. The rest of our time we spent otherwise, whilst our Ship took in some more Loading, her Arrival being very displeasing to others that were in the Port, because it is a Rule in all those of the State, that no other Ship shall load till every *Venetian* is serv'd.

There is a remarkable Fishery in this Port, which as such I noted down. In *July* and *August* a vast Multitude of that Fish they call *Saualas*, and we *Olaves*, uses to come from within the *Archipelago*, to this and other Islands, of which they take a Female alive, and tie her so with small Cords made of Horses Hair, that she cannot slip away. Then fixing a Pole or Cane in the Bottom of the Bay very fast, they tie her to it, leaving Line enough. The Males presently flock about her, and those who laid the Bait, lose no time in killing of them; yet such is the Eagerness of those Fishes, that the others are not at all scard; so that several of these Baits being set up, they take an infinite Quantity, the Flesh whereof they salt, and of the Rows make *Rotargo*, much valued in all those Parts. I saw many black Slaves in this Island, some of them brought out of *Barbary*, but most of them by the *English*, who took them from the *Portuguese Guinea*, and *Angola* Ships. Twelve Miles to the North West of this Port lies the Island of *Cephalonia*, subject also to the *Venetians*; and 20 Miles to the Northward are the small Islands call'd *Scorzolari*, near which was the great Battel [we call of *Lepanto*] between the *Turks*, and the Confederate *Christians*, under the Command of *Doh John* of *Austria*. To conclude, the Women of this Island are generally beautiful, and when they go into the Country, ride astride like Men; both Sexes being very like the *Portuguese* of the Province between the Rivers *Duero* and *Minho*, in their Way of Living, Songs, and Dancing.

Fishery.

C H A P. XV.

Our Departure from Zant and Arrival at Venice.

WE stay'd here 8 Days for want of a Wind, which we would not lose when it offer'd, but set Sail on Sunday the 5th of June at Noon, but were forc'd back upon the Winds veering about; so that we could not make through the Channel we were in, which is between Zant and Cephalonia. It is very remarkable that from Ormuz to this Place, I was always forc'd back to every Port I sail'd from, and could never make my Voyage till the 2d time. The same Wind that drove us back into the Harbour, brought thither a Venetian Ship coming from Naples, which among other things inform'd us of the Birth of the Prince of Spain, and the Promotion of Pope Paul V. The same Day we were told that the Pyrate Murat Arrays, was in the Gulf of Venice with 7 Gallies.

Wednesday the 8th the Wind began to spring up a little favourable, when we sail'd again in Consort with 2 other Ships, the one a Venetian from Cyprus, the other a small English Vessel bound for Venice, and believing this last being the lightest, would be there first, I deliver'd a Packet of Letters for Venice to an Acquaintance of Zant, that went aboard her; but the Sea is very uncertain; for that Vessel being forc'd into Corfu for want of Water, after many other Hardships, reach'd Venice about 20 Days after us. We had not sail'd above 12 Miles with a fair Wind before it came about, and brought us back to the Harbour again; so that having no Hopes of making our Voyage that Way, we would not enter the Port, but rounded the Island to the Southward, and having run upon a Bowling 3 Days, struggling with cross Winds, on Thursday the 16th we discover'd the Island of Corfu at a great distance to the Northward. The next Morning we were 15 Miles from Cape S. Mary, and then came up with that of Otranto, both of them in the Province of Apulia in Italy, at the Mouth of the Gulf of Venice. When we were 12 Miles within it, the Wind came contrary again, which kept us tacking up and down for some Days across that Breadth, which is of about 60 Miles. At length it pleas'd God the Weather mended, and we held on our Course along the Coast of Valona, formerly Macedonia. We sail'd by Cutaro, a Fortres in that Country, belonging to the Venetians, not far from which is Castel Nuovo, and then the Republick of

Ragusa

Ragusa, which preserves it self by paying Tribute to the Turk, and to the *Venetian*, the latter wherof every Month appoint a Governour of the People. We pass'd by a great Number of Islands, and Rocks lying thereabouts, close to the Coast of *Sclavonia*, by the Ancients call'd *Dalmatia*. On the 30th of *June* we sent our Boat to one of those Islands for Water, being in want of it, which came the next Day with Plenty of fresh Provisions, Bread, Fruit, and Greens. A Turkish *Chiaus* and a *Sangiack* were then in the Island, who came from the *Grand Signior*, to resign up to the *Venetians* some Lands in *Dalmatia*, as a free Gift.

Continuing our Voyage still upon a Bowling, by reason the Wind was contrary, we had a Sight of the Lands of *Ancona*, and on *Saturday* the 9th of *July* at 4 in the Afternoon arriv'd in *Istria*. Being so near, *Peter dal Ponte* and the rest went ashore to take a Boat, to carry them over to *Venice*; because great Ships bound for *Malamoco*, which is the anchoring Place at *Venice*, take a Compass, and are not there so soon; but the Boats go a shorter Cut, and therefore it is usual when the Ships come to this Place, to take Boat for those hundred Miles there are across to *Venice*. So we did, and our Comerades bringing the Vessel, we embark'd on *Sunday* the 10th; but in the midst of our Pleasure, there rose such Storms of Wind and Rain that Night, as made us all despair of our Lives, and lasted till Break of Day, when the Weather grew calmer, and we enter'd *Venice* on *Monday* the 11th at 8 in the Morning, where being clear'd by the Officers of the *Pratique Office*, or that regard the Health, every one went his way, blessing God for our safe Arrival. After resting my self and viewing some Part of so much as is remarkable and wonderful in that City, of which one ingeniously said, *It was the impossible Part of Impossibility*, I departed thence, and traversing a considerable Part of *Italy*, enter'd *Piedmont*, whence I cross'd the *Alps* into *Savoy* and *France*, and lastly came into these Provinces, where I took up in this City of *Antwerp*, whence I impart to you this short Account of my Travels, which might have been much longer, had I not design'dly abridg'd it.

...which province is still by paying Tribute to the King
and to the Romans, the latter whereof I should appoint a Go-
vernour of the People. We passed by a great number of Islands,
and Rocks lying thereabouts, close to the Coast of Sclavonia, by
the Indians call'd Damania. On the south of these we went out
Boat to one of those Islands, for which being in want of it,
which came the next day with many of our provisions, food,
fire and grease. A small Ship and a Sloop were then in
the Island, who came from the Westward, to bring us to the
Newer Land, I was in doubt, as I have said.
Continuing our Voyage still upon a flowing of reason, the
Wind was contrary, we had a sight of the Land of Sclavonia
and on Saturday the 10th of July at 10 in the forenoon arriv'd
in the Bay of Sclavonia, where we found many small
boats, full of people, who came to see us, and to bring us
to the Land, which is the same, which I have said, at Sclavonia.
The Company, and the not there to see, but the boats go to the
Land, and therefore it is said, with the ship, come to the
Land, to take Boat for that hundred Miles there are across the
Land. On we did, and our Comrades following the Voyage, we
cross'd on Sunday the 11th, but in the night of our Pleasure,
there was a storm of Wind and Rain that night, and made us
all despair of our lives, and lasted till the 12th of July, when the
Weather grew calm, and we arriv'd at Sclavonia on Monday the
13th at 6 in the morning, where being receiv'd by the Officers
of the Fort, we arriv'd at the City, where we were
in way, blessing God for our safe arrival. After resting my self
and viewing some Part of so much as is remarkable, and worth
being in the City, of which one might say, that it is
a City of Sclavonia, I departed thence, and arriv'd at
the City of Sclavonia, where I arriv'd, where I arriv'd,
and arriv'd, and arriv'd, and arriv'd, and arriv'd, and arriv'd,
yes, where I arriv'd, in the City of Sclavonia, where I arriv'd,
to you this short Account of my Travels, which might have been
much longer, had I not dangerously abus'd it.

THE CONTENTS.

- Chap. I. The Motive I had to undertake this Journey, and a short Account of a Voyage I made before, from India to Spain, by the way of the Philippine Islands. p. 1
- Chap. II. My Departure from Goa, and arrival at Ormuz, whence setting out for Bazora, I was drove back again. p. 9
- Chap. III. My second setting out from Ormuz, and reaching the Bottom of the Gulph of Persia, where entering the Rivers Tigris, and Euphrates, I came to the City Bazora. p. 13
- Chap. IV. My Departure from Bazora through the Desert, and a Diary of my Journey, till I came to Mexat Aly, a City in the same Desert. p. 18
- Chap. V. The Description of Mexat Ocem; our crossing the Country of Mesopotamia, and Rivers Tigris and Euphrates, and coming to Bagdat on the former of them. p. 31
- Chap. VI. The Description of Bagdat. p. 37
- Chap. VII. Our Departure from Bagdat, we cross Mesopotamia again,

- and come to Ana, on the River Euphrates. p. 44
- Chap. VIII. The Description of Ana on the River Euphrates. p. 50
- Chap. IX. Our Departure from Ana, and Journey through the Desert to Sukana. p. 54
- Chap. X. Our Departure from Sukana, and joining the Caravan at Taybah, whence we set out for Aleppo, and were attacked by Robbers. p. 62
- Chap. XI. Of the City of Aleppo. p. 68
- Chap. XII. My Journey from Aleppo to Scanderone, with the Description of the Country and that Place. p. 75
- Chap. XIII. Our Departure from Scanderone, and Arrival at Cyprus. p. 79
- Chap. XIV. Our Departure from Cyprus, and Voyage as far as Zant. p. 83
- Chap. XV. Our Departure from Zant, and Arrival at Venice. p. 88

THE INDEX.

A

A <i>Bumentem</i> , the Father of the ill	
Water Wells.	Pag. 64
<i>Abn regemo</i> Vale.	74
<i>Acapulco</i> Port in <i>New Spain</i> .	7
<i>Ale</i> desert Village.	66
<i>Afleyah</i> Field.	45
Agreement betwixt <i>Turks</i> and <i>Vene-</i>	
<i>tians</i> .	78
<i>Ahen dabab</i> Spring.	66
<i>Ahen macuba</i> , the Springs of the	
Rushy Grounds.	67
Air of <i>Bagdat</i> .	71
<i>Alcoran</i> or Steeple, a curious Stru-	
cture.	29
What they are.	35
<i>Aleppo</i> City besieg'd.	43
Describ'd, Derivation of its Name,	
its River and Suburbs.	68
Houses, Mosques, Khans, Hospi-	
tals, and Forts built by <i>Joab</i> .	69
Mint, Inhabitants, <i>Jews</i> and <i>Chri-</i>	
<i>tians</i> , the <i>Bassa</i> , the <i>Cadi</i> .	70
Beautiful Women, <i>Europeans</i> <i>Ve-</i>	
<i>netians</i> .	71
<i>English</i> , <i>Dutch</i> , Hire of Camels,	
Manufactures, Coffee Houses,	
and Exercise.	73
Gates.	74
<i>Ally</i> the <i>Mahometan</i> Prophet,	his
Burial.	28

His Mosque.

<i>Ana</i> Town describ'd, its Antiquity.	29
Fertility, <i>Jews</i> , Natives and Du-	
ties on Goods.	51
No Market there, Habit of the	
People.	52
<i>Ancana</i> .	83
<i>Andeney</i> Island of Birds.	11
<i>Angan</i> Island.	ibid
<i>Antioch</i> , the Ruins of it.	77
<i>Ashenhat</i> Springs.	46
<i>Arabs</i> , <i>Nihhelus</i> and <i>Nautagues</i> .	11
<i>Arabian</i> Robbers.	22
<i>Aram Sobah</i> , the Jewish Name of	
<i>Aleppo</i> .	68
<i>Arnisqua</i> Town in <i>Cyprus</i> .	73
Author's Arrival at <i>Aleppo</i> .	67

B

B <i>Abilon</i> and <i>Bagdat</i> two different	
Places.	42
Old <i>Babylon</i> .	ibid
<i>Bagdat</i> City describ'd. No Stone	
there. Bridge of Boats.	37
Suburb in <i>Mesopotamia</i> .	38
The Wall.	39
Houses, Inhabitants and Baths.	40
Its Air and Trade.	41
Founded by <i>Abujasar</i> .	42
The <i>Bassa's</i> Revenue.	43
<i>Bassa</i> of <i>Bagdat</i> his Revenue.	ibid
	<i>Bassa</i>

The INDEX.

Bells of Aleppo.	70
Baz Dulaib Wells.	44
Bazora City.	15
Old Bazora.	20
Behdely Tribe of Turkymans.	60
Beautiful Women at Aleppo.	71
Bexar Mountain in Arabia, whence	
Bexar City in Spain.	60
Bilan Town and Mountain.	77
Birds feeding on Dung.	10
Bolugo Bassa, an Officer.	41
Borneo Island.	3
Boterus, a Mistake of his.	47
Bridge of Boats at Bagdat.	37
Bridges.	76
C	
Camels, their Food, and other	
Paticulars.	52
Their Hire at Aleppo.	73
Camphir.	3
Candia Island.	76
Canzir Cape.	80
Caravan, the Way of travelling with	
it.	19
Of Mecca.	73
Affaulted by Robbers.	64
Caravanserai describ'd.	27
Care to prevent Infection at Zant.	78
Cattel how bred by the Turkymans.	58
Cefalonias Island.	79 and 80
Ceyfadin Shore.	22
Chilao.	12
CHRIST worshipp'd by Mahome-	
tans.	17
Christians at Aleppo.	70
Coffee Houles at Bagdat.	38
At Aleppo.	73
Colocoyntha	22
Cookery of Arabs.	26
Corna Zabab, the Point of the Civer	
Cat, a Mountain.	66
Cradles to travel in.	
Cure of a Camel.	
Cyprus Island.	
Its Product, Inhabitants, &c.	
Gold there.	
Earth for dying.	
Anecas Boats.	
Dates, great Plenty of them.	
Delicious Country between Aleppo	
and Scanderone.	
Devotion of Mahometans ridiculous.	
Diet of Arabs very poor.	
Doreka City.	
Drahem Hill.	
Dutch at Aleppo.	
E	
Earth for dying in Cyprus.	
Efegel Caravanserai.	
English at Aleppo.	
Euphrates River.	
Europeans at Aleppo.	
Exercise at Aleppo.	
Ezekiel the Prophet's Tomb.	
F	
Fertility of the Country about	
Ana.	
Festival of Greeks.	
Field Mice.	
Fields of Salt.	
Fishery at Zant.	
Forces at Bagdat.	
Fort at Bazora.	
In a Desert.	
At Bagdat.	
In an Island near Ana Town.	

The INDEX

At Aleppo, said to have been built
by Joab. 69

French at Aleppo, their Trade. 71

G

G Adyr a ther Channel. 61

Galls, Trade of them. 52

Garra or Serige Mansel. 65

Gates of Aleppo. 74

Gazels what they are, and how hunted. 63

Gedrahim Town. 67

Gebul Lake. 66

Genezza Caravanferra. 30

Gibel el Bexar, the Mountain of Bexar. 69

Gold in Cyprus. 74

Gomegme Station. 47

Greek Festival. 77

H

H Abit of the People of Ana. 52

Hadyr Town. 47

Habe Oje, the Crook Way Mansion. 63

Havana. 8

Hayun Sayda, the Springs of Sayda. 24

Hhaleb, the Turkish Name of Aleppo. 68

Hhanega Stream. 25

Hospital of Aleppo. 69

Houses of Aleppo. 58

Of Turkymans. 33 and 47

Hyr Town. 33 and 47

I

I Jews at Ana Town. 51

At Aleppo. 70

Inhabitants of Cyprus. 73

Journey by Land from Bazora to Bagdat. 19

Isria.

Jubab, Wells of Water, Mansel. 56

Juba Town. 47

Jubeba Mansion. 59

K Abem Mansel or Station. 57

Kalb asfor, Cows or Oxen

Heart, a Place so call'd. 24

Kane Shoals. 12

Karah Channel. 14

Karg Island. 13

Karkuf City Ruins. 45

Karues Island. 11

Ketef el bel Mansion. 69

Keys or Cays Island. 11

Khan or Caravanferra. 35

Khans at Aleppo. 69

Kufa ruin'd Town. 28

L

L Ake of Salt. 66

Layaza Bay. 79

M

M Aydon City. 14

Mahomeran Charity. 31

Malaca City. 1

Manila City. 5

Manufactures at Aleppo. 73

Manzel, what it is. 46

Market none kept at Ana, why. 42

Mecazzar Jubab Field. 99

Medyk Naceria, Streights of Naceria. 28

Melhuah Salt Town. 67

Mexat Aly Town describ'd. 28

Mexat Ocem City describ'd. 31

Mexat Sandabiah Mosque. 46

Mexayebb Khan. 34

Mint at Aleppo. 70

Mosques

The INDEX

Mosques at Aleppo.	69	Road to <i>Mexico</i> .	7
Musry of Aleppo.	70	Robbers assault the <i>Caravan</i> .	64
Muy al Mecenah, or <i>Methenah</i> , the		Ruins of Structures at <i>Bagdat</i> .	39
Water of <i>Mefnah</i> .	59	Of a Christian Town.	64
		Of Christian Structures.	66
		<i>Ruman ben Hills</i> .	50

N

<i>Nasid</i> , the Deputy Mansion.	61
<i>Nazeria</i> Territory.	48
<i>Nihhelus</i> Arabs.	11
<i>Nontagues</i> Arabs.	ibid

O

<i>Oza</i> City.	14
<i>Om errus</i> Territory.	46
<i>Ogolet Xequé</i> Mahamed Wells.	ibid
<i>Ogolet el Helb</i> Wells.	ibid
<i>Orfa</i> or <i>Ur</i> City.	74

P

<i>Perfia</i> , its Coast.	12
<i>Phehur</i> or <i>Pelouro</i> Island.	11
<i>Philippine</i> Islands.	4
Policy of <i>Turks</i> .	71
Product of <i>Cyprus</i> .	73
Protector of Strangers at <i>Bagdat</i> .	39

Q

Quarrel compounded for Money.	76
<i>Queixorne</i> Island.	10
<i>Qwir</i> , a Bitumen.	16 and 33

R

<i>Ragem al Hayma</i> Mansion.	59
<i>Ragusa</i> Republick.	81
<i>Rahemah</i> Lake.	27
<i>Regb Ceyfadin</i> Shore.	13
Revenue of the <i>Bassa</i> of <i>Bagdat</i> .	43
<i>Roxel</i> Fort.	13
Rivers in <i>Spain</i> the Names whence deriv'd.	14

S

<i>Safra</i> Town.	67
<i>St. John de Ulva</i> .	8
Salt, whole Fields of it.	19
<i>Scanderone</i> Port.	78
<i>Segmenes</i> , what they are.	33
<i>Semat</i> Wells.	25
<i>Serige</i> Mansel.	65
<i>Sermion</i> Cape.	11
<i>Serrage</i> Town and Fort.	15
<i>Seylat</i> Channel.	47
Siege of <i>Aleppo</i> .	43
<i>Singapore</i> Streight.	2
<i>Singa</i> River.	68
Spaniards not safe in <i>Turky</i> .	74
Springs of <i>Sayda</i> .	24
A hot one.	61
<i>Srival</i> Island.	77
Suburbs of <i>Aleppo</i> .	68
<i>Sucana</i> Village.	61
<i>Succos</i> Market Places.	69
<i>Sumatra</i> Island.	2

T

<i>Tabakt Seguer</i> Field.	59
<i>Tal Aron</i> , the Hill of Thorns, a Town.	67
<i>Taybah</i> Town.	62
<i>Tel al Yuh</i> , the Jews Hill.	55
<i>Tel Axarab</i> Village.	67
<i>Telul mana hyat</i> , the Hill of the Wells of Water.	57
Thieviness of <i>Arabs</i> .	65
Tomb of a Jewish High Priest.	42
Towns	

The INDEX.

Towns on the Euphrates. 34
 Trade of Bagdad. 41
 Of Galls. 52
 Tradition of Jews and Mahometans. 69
 Tribes of Arabs. 6
 Turbants. 73
 Turkymans, their Houses, who they are, and Manner of breeding the Cattel. 58
 Tygris River. 14 and 37
 The Way on it from Bazora to Bagdad. 18

V
 VED Garabab Plain. 48
 Venerians at Aleppo, their Trade. 71
 Verdoftam Town and Point. 12
 Voyage from Manila to New Spain. 3

To Ormuz. 60
 Or City, now Orfa. 74
 Oxela Water. 26

W
 Weaving at Bagdad. 41
 Wonderful Fortune of a King of Japan. 6

X
 AT el Arab River. 13

Z
 Am Island. 77
 Zavyche Island in the Euphrates. 48

Towns. 34
 Trade of Bagdad. 41
 Of Galls. 52
 Tradition of Jews and Mahometans. 69
 Tribes of Arabs. 6
 Turbants. 73
 Turkymans, their Houses, who they are, and Manner of breeding the Cattel. 58
 Tygris River. 14 and 37
 The Way on it from Bazora to Bagdad. 18

To Ormuz. 60
 Or City, now Orfa. 74
 Oxela Water. 26
 Weaving at Bagdad. 41
 Wonderful Fortune of a King of Japan. 6
 AT el Arab River. 13
 Am Island. 77
 Zavyche Island in the Euphrates. 48